

# Claims of smells, rats and dust near waste firm RESIDENTS HIT OUT AT QUARRY PLANS

By Nathan Briant

**RESIDENTS** on a Walsall street are fighting plans for a 'problem quarry', to be allowed to carry on operating until 2025.

Work has been ongoing to fill Highfields South Quarry in Walsall Wood with non-hazardous waste for six years and it was scheduled to have finished by next month.

But more work must go into the project, which could be granted extended planning permission for a further nine years. A petition has been signed by 88 residents who live on Woodbridge Close in Shelfield.

They have pleaded with operators Cory Environmental to deal with smells, dust, flies and vermin. They argue extending the quarry's life would 'be an infringement of rights as citizens'.

Woodbridge Close resident Michael Armstrong, who started the petition, said: "There were rats, a lot of dust and really bad smells. There were nights where the smell had got so bad that you had to shut the windows on a hot night as you couldn't breathe because of it."

## Promised

Mr Armstrong said a group has met with Cory Environmental and the firm has 'promised to address' the issues. He added: "They've been quite co-operative and they seem willing to help if there is a problem."

Robert Gethin, who also lives on Woodbridge Close, said: "It is really bad. It absolutely stinks. It is vile. It's a gas smell. When it gets foggy and misty it's even worse. It makes you feel sick. It's too close to the houses."

Walsall Council previously used the quarry but now takes its waste to a site near Wolverhampton. Council officers have recommended the application is approved at a planning committee meeting later today, Thursday.

When the planning application was granted in 2007, it was thought the quarry would be filled by about 300,000 tons every year.

But since 2010, when the site became fully operational, the input has been about 120,000 tons every year. In council documents Cory Environmental say they have kept in touch with residents.

One resident contacted by the company withdrew their objection to the quarry being open longer after contact with Cory. The company also said it had 'double-checked to ensure landfill gas wells are fully sealed' and provided residents with a phone number they can call if there are any smells. Regarding dust, the company said it was 'continuing to be vigilant'. The firm was not available for further comment.

## FUCHSIA'S BRIGHT AFTER SUCCESSFUL SHOW



Walsall Fuchsia and Flower Society's show manager Gordon Crowe from Bloxwich, with flowers by Debbie Devey, at Blue Coat School

MEMBERS of a Walsall flower society were out in force showing off their colourful efforts during an annual display.

Blue Coat School's hall became a sea of colour as members of the Walsall Fuchsia and Flower Society displayed their recent creations.

Chairman Brian Tomalin, aged 80, said: "It was great. Considering it was the bank holiday and we had really bad weather - I think there was a traffic diversion and that did bring the numbers down - it seemed well attended."

"All in all I would say it was a good day."

On Saturday, the group managed to bring down a national judge for the British Fuchsia Society, Linda Hinchliffe.

She had travelled down to the West Midlands school from Holmfirth in West Yorkshire to hand out prizes to the society's members who had made the best efforts.

Linda is held in such high esteem in horticultural circles that she has had a fuchsia named after her.

The club meets at Pelsall Social Club, on Norton Road, on the third Monday of every

month and has guest speakers for 11 months of the year. The society's coffers were boosted by members and visitors paying for refreshments and raffle tickets.

The fuchsia flower is a beautiful, exotic flower with striking two-tone colors.

The flowers are often used in summer bedding and containers.

Varieties can also be used as hedges or as permanent plants.

To join the fuchsia and flower society, or to get more information from senior members, ring 01922 475404 or 01922 633696.

## AWARDS

### Real lift for workers as they reach finals

TWO Walsall men have beaten hundreds of other entries from across three continents to reach the finals of the International Forklift Operator of the Year award.

Richard Humpage and Ryan Reynolds will be demonstrating their knowledge, skill and understanding of safe forklift truck operation when they take part in the live competition finals in front of 20,000 people at IMHX (International Materials Handling Exhibition) 2016 at the NEC next month.

Richard, aged 29, from Rushall, and 22-year-old Ryan, from Walsall, who both work for Green Lane-based distribution company TJX Europe, beat competitors from as far away as India and the USA.

## POLICE

### Patrols stepped up over off-road jobs

OFF-ROAD bikes have been rampaging around an historic estate in Great Barr, prompting police to take action. Police say they have stepped up patrols around Great Barr Hall following reports that youths have been causing a nuisance.

The site at the back of the hall, which dates back to the 18th century and has stood empty since 1978, has been targeted by youngsters using off-road bikes.

Phaeasey Park Farm neighbourhood police said they will issue section 59 notices to anyone caught using bikes at the site, as well as the nearby Netherhall Estate.

## HEALTH

### Recruitment days for Manor nurse hopefuls

PROSPECTIVE nurses at Walsall Manor Hospital will get the chance to be interviewed there and then during an upcoming recruitment day. Hospital bosses recently announced they had around 400 vacancies to fill in roles including nursing, midwifery and paediatrics. Positions are available in both the healthcare and administrative side of things.

As a result the hospital will host a recruitment day on Thursday, September 8.

Suitable candidates will be given a time and date to be interviewed while registered nurses will be offered an interview the same day. A follow-up event is due on the Friday at Walsall's Old Square from 11am to 3pm.

## INSIDE

### Event shows pride of place in Walsall



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# Fun run entrants top 500 for Joel cause

ORGANISERS of a fundraising run set up in memory of Wednesbury terror victim Joel Richards are hoping it can be 'smiles better' after entrants passed the 500 mark!

Sandwell Leisure Trust in partnership with the Smile for Joel charity (set up by mum Suzy Richards and younger brother Owen) and Victim Support are hosting the first 'Run for Joel' event on Sunday September 11 at Sandwell Valley Country Park on Salters Lane, West Bromwich – and are aiming for 1,000 people from across the region to take part.



Sandwell leisure chief, Councillor Richard Marshall with Suzy and Owen Richards

### Challenges

It starts at 10am with a competitive 5K run, but there is also a more relaxed 3K run (or even a stroll) open to all ages and abilities, with all monies raised going towards a great cause.

Joel (19 at the time) lost his life in Tunisia on June 26 2015, along with Grandfather Patrick Evans and Uncle Adrian Evans, who worked for Sandwell Council. Suzy said: "We're primarily

doing it to honour Joel's 21st Birthday (he would have turned 21 earlier this month on August 3) and this fun run is the first of our '21 Challenges for Joel' initiative. Everyone knows Joel would have been at the front of the queue to sign up and participate, so my message to the people of

Sandwell and across the West Midlands is let's stand together as one and show our love for 31 British people that never came home from holiday."

Councillor Richard Marshall, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for leisure, adds: "This is a very fitting way to honour Joel and remember Patrick and Adrian too. The determination of Suzy and Owen to support others who've experienced similar, unimaginable tragedy is truly inspirational."

To register as an individual, school, or group and to download a sponsorship form, visit <https://www.slt-leisure.co.uk/run-for-joel/> Entries cost £10 for the 5K race, £6 for the 3K fun run for adults and children 12+, while under 12's run for just £2 and under 2's are free. Alternatively, you can telephone 0207 268 0246/0223 during office hours to register. There is also an option to set up a just giving page at <http://campaign.justgiving.com/charity/victim-support/smileforjoel>

For further details on the charity visit The Face-book page at <https://www.facebook.com/smileforjoel> or email [smileforjoel@aol.com](mailto:smileforjoel@aol.com)

# Borough celebrates great GCSE results

**STUDENTS** across Walsall are celebrating after being handed some excellent GCSE results after years of hard work.

Among those happy with the news, staff at St Thomas More Catholic School in Willenhall said they were 'delighted' with their results.

They included students Manraj Besran, Sasha Chand, Keerthana Kamalanathan, Rosa Lewis, Sarah Osei, Neha Pal and Daniels Valde-manis who achieved at least eight GCSE grades at A\* and A.

Headteacher Sarah Hatfield said: "I am very proud of the GCSE results achieved this year. It has been a great academic year for the school and we are very proud of the accomplishments of our students."

### Improved

Bloxwich Academy has recorded a 'significant improvement' in results especially in English. In 2015 only 26 per cent of pupils achieved a grade C. This year it has increased to 50 per cent.

Headteacher Andy Seager complimented the hard work of pupils, staff and parents adding: "Results have dramatically improved over just 12 months because the culture and ethos at Bloxwich Academy has changed completely. When you add all the subjects together, pupils are achieving on average nearly half a grade better than they were this time last year."

"The Academy is going from strength to strength, as exemplified during our very positive visit from Her Majesty's Inspectors in June and I look forward to welcoming many of our pupils back to the Sixth Form in September."



Students at Grace Academy in Darlaston celebrate their exam results, from left, Haaris Bajwa, Hollie Kay, Kieran Hale, Lacie Butler, Ryan Allmark, Farhaanah Ahmed and Kiran Kaur

A 'strong set' of results was recorded at Aldridge School including a huge increase in A\* grades overall, particularly in mathematics and sciences. Top student Peter Parcsami achieved nine A\* and three A grades with Bilal Shafiq, James Moss, Eve Bailey and Hollie Hutchinson netting more than 20 A\* and nine A grades between them.

Headteacher David Mountney said: "These are a very pleasing set of results given the radical government changes to the exam system which has impacted on all Year 11 students. These students have coped with these

challenges in a most mature way. They truly deserve their success."

At Shire Oak Academy 60 per cent of students achieved at least a C in both English and Maths, with 100 per cent of students leaving the academy with at least one GCSE or equivalent.

Principal Ray Beech paid tribute to all students and staff, he said: "I would like to congratulate all our students on their brilliant GCSE results and I would also like to thank all staff for their hard work over the course of the year."

"There have been some fantastic individual results from a number of

students and this is a great end to a very successful school year for the academic. Well done to all and we look forward to welcoming many of you to our sixth form in September."

The Grace Academy in Darlaston celebrated its best ever results – with 12 students netting 50 A\* and A grades between them.

There were 12 pupils particularly celebrated who, between them, achieved 50 A\* or A grades. Kieran Hale will be starting at a technical college in the autumn with the view of becoming an architect. He said: "I'm over the moon with my results..."

# Travellers nightmare continues with return

WALSALL'S travellers nightmare shows no sign of ending as a group has moved back onto The Delves site in Palfrey. Earlier this month travellers moved onto three sites in the borough, including The Delves.

It sparked outrage from residents who warned that events were 'going to get nasty' as they blamed the travellers for smashing windows with bricks and threatening residents.

Councillor Mohammad Nazir, who represents the Palfrey ward along with Councillor Allah Ditta and Councillor Sabina Ditta, said that he was working with the council to bring about a long term strategy.

He said: "This is something that we have problems with across the borough and more so in Palfrey. We are very fortunate to have so many open spaces but these get exploited by the travellers."

"Me and the other two ward councillors for Palfrey had a meeting with Simon Neilson [executive director for economy and environment at Walsall Council] and we are trying to work with neighbouring authorities to stop the problem."

"The travellers are very clever and they know how long they can stay on a site for and already have their next site lined up. If we can have a policy across the Black Country then we will be able to stop it and get them moved on immediately. I get so many emails and so many phone calls from residents calling for action but as ward councillors we are limited. It is not just them actually occupying the land as well it is the anti-social behaviour and the rubbish they leave behind."

This latest move will come as a bitter blow to residents as the site was cleaned up from the previous set of travellers. At the time Councillor Christopher Jones, the portfolio holder for clean and green at the Council, described the site as 'barely recognisable' as he helped with the clean up operation.

# Drivers to get special training

WALSALL Council plans to train taxi drivers to spot signs of child sexual exploitation (CSE).

The council, which has already trained teachers and doctors to spot signs of CSE, will now train hackney carriage and private hire drivers. Exact details for the training are still being decided.

Taxi drivers will be asked and trained to listen out for nicknames being used, addresses being discussed or particular vehicles being described.

They will then pass on any information they have to West Midlands Police or the council. Training will be free to current drivers while new applicants will have to pay £10.40.

The matter was discussed at a licensing and safety meeting, where Councillor Aftab Nawaz asked for some flexibility over when the training can take place.

No decision was made at the meeting to allow time for more discussions.

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# Beards will face retrial over rape accusation

A WOMAN found guilty of the manslaughter of her friend will be retried for rape before the end of the year, it has been revealed.

Julie Beards was found guilty of the manslaughter of 20-year-old Susan Whiting by a jury at Leicester Crown Court in May. The 36-year-old is in custody and is awaiting sentence.

But the Crown Prosecution Service has now confirmed that she will be hauled before a jury once more on December 5.

Her husband, Steven Beards, has already been jailed for 33 years after being found guilty of the murder and rape of Ms Whiting, who was found dead at Julie Beards' bungalow in Heather Close, Bloxwich last August.

The same jury did not find Julie Beards had committed murder under joint enterprise, but instead convicted her of manslaughter. They were acquitted of deciding if she was guilty of rape after indicating they were unlikely to reach a majority verdict on the charge.

For several days Ms Whiting's family had to travel to Leicester Crown Court to hear the gruesome details of her killing. But the CPS has confirmed the retrial will be held closer to home at Birmingham Crown Court.

Ms Whiting, who had a learning impairment, had met Mrs Beards at Walsall Adult and Community College where they were both students. She was last seen alive by her family on Sunday, August 16, when she was dropped off at Julie Beards' bungalow for a sleepover.

## Supermarket plan for area

A NEW supermarket could be built in Walsall, under new plans.

The supermarket would be built at 312 Pleck Road, next to the currently closed Jeevan Jyot Indian restaurant – formerly the Forge and Fettle pub.

A total of five jobs would be created and nearby parking spaces for the restaurant would be reduced to 12 from 30 to cater for the new build, according to plans submitted to Walsall Council.

A report, lodged with the planning application, reads: "The proposed retail use would be beneficial in the area as the majority of the surrounding area is residential, so a retail supermarket would be welcomed by the local community and help to regenerate the area itself."

## Walks put on hold by club

A RAMBLING club will not be holding its normal weekly walk as members head on their annual trip to The Cotswolds on Sunday. Bosses at Chase Ramblers said its programme of local walks would resume next week.

# Care agency under fire from watchdog

DOZENS of people cared for through a Black Country agency were put at risk because staff were not properly checked before they were employed, inspectors have found.

Civicare Midlands Ltd, which has its offices based on High Road in Willenhall, and predominantly covers Walsall and Wolverhampton, was found by Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspectors to be badly led, unresponsive to people's needs and that it did not always care for people in a 'caring, dignified and respectful way'.

It has now been placed in 'special measures' and must undergo another inspection within six months. If insufficient progress has been made later, it could have its registration removed. In one case a person

in Civicare's care had epilepsy – but staff were unaware they had the condition. The risks of them having the condition were not assessed and staff were unaware whether the person had experienced any recent seizures.

Despite the damning report, the agency's bosses has described the problems as only 'minor' and vowed everything was being addressed.

The CQC visited on May 19. At the time the provider supported 53 people living in their own homes.

Inspectors said they assessed the safety, responsiveness and leadership of the agency as 'inadequate' and said the effectiveness and the level of care 'required improvement'. The CQC had made another visit last September and found insufficient

progress had been made since. Civicare staff were sometimes unable to outline risks of how people with diabetes needed help with food and drink and how they should be treated to keep them safe.

Others were unclear how to monitor potential pressure areas and report concerns. One said they had received training – but did not know what a developing pressure area would look like. Civicare Midlands Limited was established in 1998.

In response to the report director Nash Khosla said: "We are working with the CQC to get everything sorted out. They did raise some issues, but they were only minor issues and they are all being addressed. I am 100 per cent confident by the next inspection everything will be fine."

# Surgery criticised for catalogue of failings

A GP surgery with some 2,000 patients that did not have any leads or pads for its defibrillator has been placed into special measures.

Lower Farm Health Centre in Bloxwich has been slammed by the Care Quality Commission, with inspectors rating the service inadequate in two separate reports.

By Jack Avery

During their two visits to the centre inspectors found a catalogue of failings including: Patients not always receiving apologies when mistakes were made; risks to patients were not always assessed and well managed; not all patients felt cared for, supported and listened to.

Also the practice did not have a leaflet or a web site for online access, there were no leads or pads for the surgery's defibrillator, and gaps in recruitment checks for new employees were found.

In the first report the health centre was rated inadequate for its safety, effectiveness and leadership, while it was told to improve its responsiveness and level of caring. But after a second inspection last month its responsiveness has been bumped down to inadequate.

Inspectors originally visited the surgery on May 18 for a full inspection, but revisited the surgery on July 8 after concerns were raised about its responsiveness. Both reports were published on August 25.

A report on the surgery said: "Staff understood their responsibilities to raise concerns, and to report incidents and near misses. However, the systems in place to review and investigate incidents were not thorough enough. Patients did not always receive an apology.

"The practice did not have a system for shared learning, they did not hold regular practice or clinical meetings and they were not attending external meetings with other

healthcare professionals. Risks to patients were not always assessed and well managed, for example there were no care plans for vulnerable people at risk of acute admission and the practice did not establish a clear system for receiving medicines and healthcare products regulatory (MHRA) alerts.

"The majority of patients said they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect. However, data from the GP patient survey identified that, of those responding not all felt cared for, supported and listened to.

"There was limited information available about services; the practice did not have a practice leaflet or a web site for online access."

Dr Hamid Lodhi, who is in the process of taking over the surgery from Dr Taj Khatkhat, said the centre had made improvements and was working with Walsall's Clinical Commissioning Group.

He said: "I was not at the practice for the first inspection and was only in the job two days at the time of the second inspection. We have had a big recruitment drive since then. At the time of the inspection there was no manager and no nurses, now we have a practice nurse, a manager, myself as a GP, a locum doctor, three full-time admin staff and more. We have made improvements and actions are being taken."

## Cash raised in Katie's memory



Former pupils Jess Cramb, Lucy Parke, and Chloe Ball, at Willenhall E-Act Academy

MORE than £2,300 was raised for charity in memory of a Black Country school teacher who died unexpectedly at her home aged 32. Katie Humpage was found dead at her flat in Burrows Street, Birchills, Walsall, on Tuesday July 26.

A fundraiser was held at Willenhall E-Act Academy, in Furzebank Way, on Sunday. Miss Humpage had previously worked at the school. She last taught at South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy. The money raised will go to MIND Birmingham – a charity for mental health.

Organiser Chloe Ball, aged 21, who Miss Humpage taught for A-level English and law, said: "We had a football tournament with 14 teams taking part. We had games including name the teddy and guess the sweets in the jar. We also had a bouncy castle, burger van and ice cream van."

Chloe, of Short Heath, Willenhall, said: "I wanted something good in her memory because she helped me a lot during school."

An inquest was opened on Miss Humpage at Black Country Coroners Court in Oldbury. It was adjourned until September 15.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Boss award for volunteer effort

A TRAVEL agent boss has been commended for her volunteering efforts.

Emma Harewood, who works at The Midcounties Co-operative Travel branch in Crown Wharf, Walsall, was recognised for her work particularly supporting St Giles Hospice.

She was nominated for the Community Champion category at the Business in the Community Responsible Business awards ceremony held at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Emma helped organise the 'Remembered Forever' walk around Walsall's Arboretum.

### Guided tour and talk along canal

A SERIES of events are taking place to commemorate 250 years since the opening of the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal.

Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre, based on Henwood Road, Wolverhampton, will be holding the events up until this Sunday.

On Saturday from 1pm curator Alec Brew will be leading a guided tour and talk of the canal as well as dishing out maps to people. On Sunday, there will also be a re-enactment of the moment 250 years ago that they started digging out the canal at Compton Lock.

### Wheel do this – family ride invite

WALSALL cycling group Wheel We Make It is heading on a family ride this Saturday.

The ride will start from Holy Trinity School on Church Road in Clayhanger at 9.30am.

The 12 mile 'easy-going' ride will be mostly traffic free and there will be a breakfast/coffee stop.

Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult.

The ride is expected to finish around 12.30pm.

### Walsall FC kit is now available for fans

WALSALL FC fans will finally be able to buy this season's home shirts and shorts after a delay from suppliers was resolved.

The club has announced on its website that shirts arrived last Friday with shirts' sizes ranging from boys to 5XL.

Shorts' sizes range from boys to XL. The shirt, which starts at £39.99, is now on sale at the club shop at Banks's, however they will not be available to buy online.

### Ramblers all set

WALSALL Ramblers head to the Lickey Hills on Sunday. They will be following a seven-mile circular route through fields, parkland and along the canal. Newcomers are welcome and can contact the walk leader for more information on 0121 440 7929 or visit [www.walsallramblers.co.uk](http://www.walsallramblers.co.uk)

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



I WAS tempted to go to a screening of the new Swallows and Amazons film until I saw the online previews. I'm not sure I want to watch a bunch of kids who can sail better than I can.

ARTHUR Ransome's adventure in the Lakes is very much a piece of its time. The 1930s kids have sharp knives, they light open fires, declare war on other kids and go sailing without lifejackets. If this movie were set in 2016 it would be Swallows and Asbos.

THE parents would probably get arrested, too. Swallows and Amazons begins with the kids' naval captain father hearing of their proposed voyage and sending the famous Duffers' Telegram to the children he has inexplicably named Titty and Roger. "Better drowned than duffers. If not duffers won't drown." So that's desertion, child neglect and dodgy forename-selection. The CPS would have a field day.

CRYSTAL-ball department. On July 6 this column advised kids upset by the Brexit vote not to take German nationality because "National service may be suspended at present but who knows what the future may bring? If you think Brexit will muck up your glittering career plans, how about two years in the Luftwaffe?" This week the German government says it is considering reintroducing conscription. Now, what size boots do you take, sonny?

THE most sensible comment on Corbyn's "RAM-PACKED" train journey comes from his Labour comrade, Harriet Harman: "He's got a campaign team – you would have thought they would have booked him a seat." Quite.



AND for those who say such incidents are trivial and of no interest, in less than 24 hours Traingate generated almost 20,000 comments on the Guardian website. It's little things like Traingate, Jennifer's Ear and Gordon Brown's "bigoted woman" remark that win and lose general elections. From now on, whenever Corbyn is seen anywhere near empty seats, the lethal sniggering will begin. If Parliament were not in recess and David Cameron were still in No 10, he would have ripped Corbyn to shreds in Prime Minister's Questions.

AS the nation's favourite bare-chested scyther prepares for another series, a Daily Telegraph reader asks a pertinent question. Why do we call the drama POLdark? Most Cornish words have the stress on the second syllable as with PolZEATH, PenZANCE and PolPERRO. So why is this show not PolDARK? Answers by email, thanks, not on a postCARD.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Force leads way in drugs seizures

MORE cannabis plants were seized by West Midlands Police than by any other force, new figures show.

Statistics showed in 2014/15 the force discovered more than 54,700 plants – significantly higher than the second largest haul of 41,569 seized by Greater Manchester Police in the same year. In the wider West Midlands area, incorporating other forces, a total of 69,803 plants

were seized. Factories used to be dismantled by regular officers but West Midlands Police set up a dedicated Cannabis Team following a dramatic rise in production.

This is made up of 10 members including a manager and a forensics expert. Their role is to dispose of equipment used to grow plants, recycling anything if possible, removing plants and chemicals and

ensuring buildings are safe. Cannabis growing has continued to blight the region since. More recent figures revealed West Midlands Police seized £9 million worth of the class B drug in 2015/16.

The figure was actually down on the previous year when £10,163,700 worth was recovered however the number of actual factories found shot up from 88 to 129.

And there have continued to be high profile raids this year.

Nearly £2million worth of cannabis and more than 3,800 plants were seized in a single fortnight across the West Midlands and Staffordshire after a force crackdown. Between April 7 and 22, homes in Smethwick, Wolverhampton, Dudley as well as Staffordshire and Birmingham were raided. The haul totalled £1,990,800.

# Manor hit by children's A&E ban for Stafford

By Carl Jackson

**MANOR Hospital's A&E is set to see an influx of extra patients after children's services were deemed 'clinically unsafe' and suspended at Stafford's County Hospital.**

The shock closure came into force last Thursday morning and will see parents from Stafford forced to travel miles for alternative services, including at Walsall.

Hospital bosses say the measure is 'short term', but were unable to say how long it would be until it reopened. The move is due to a lack of staff trained in paediatrics and anaesthetics, including resuscitation and life-support.

The Children's Emergency Centre at Stafford sees around 900 children a month. Health chiefs at the Manor Hospital confirmed they expected to see a 'small number' of additional patients due to the move.

Steven Vaughan, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust interim Chief Operating Officer, said: "After discussing this with our colleagues at University Hospitals North Midlands we are expecting a small number of additional patients to come to Walsall. Our emergency department and paediatric teams will work to ensure patients are seen promptly and the situation will be closely monitored."

Less than 24-hours before the shock announcement at Stafford, bosses at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust revealed they had their own staffing challenges with nearly 400 vacancies to fill including in the paediatric outpatients department. They were unable to say whether the developments at Stafford would add to their own workforce issues.

Earlier this year a cap was introduced reducing the number of births at the Manor Hospital by 700 to 4,200 in 2016/17 due to growing pressure on maternity services.

Bosses at New Cross Hospital in Wednesfield confirmed they expected to see up to 300 extra patients a month.

## Walsall shows true colours with pride



The unofficial town crier, Cyril Richardson shares the stage with Walsall Pride monkey, Andrew Smith

WALSALL hosted its annual Pride event in the town centre, with hundreds turning out to show their support. The event, which is in its fifth year, is organised to celebrate the LGBT community.

It took place in Gallery Square as pop sensations Stooose and Walsall indie band The Assist took time out to perform in front of an excited crowd.

Saturday's Pride was followed by an after party, with The Red Lion Pub in Park Street, holding cabaret shows among other events across the town.

Lisa and Sharon Mason-Roberts, got married earlier this year and had come to the event to represent the West Midlands Amputee Support Group charity, based in Darlaston. Lisa, aged 49, said: "We were there to sup-

port the gay community of Walsall. We're gay ourselves and got married ourselves earlier this year. We like to support everything that goes on in Walsall and it's a lovely community. It's important to have events like this to bring people together."

A parade was originally planned to have marched through the town to launch the event but had to be cancelled when the marching band pulled out.

Ian Taylor, 58, from West Bromwich, was kitted out in head-to-toe in rainbow accessories. He said events like Pride were important. "I'm usually a marshal for Birmingham pride, he said. "I think it's important to have events like this to show that there are different kinds of people in the world and we're not all stigmatised."

# Father of ex-Wolves star died on night out

THE father of ex-Wolves striker Leon Clarke died after being punched in the head and then falling off his bike.

Darel Clarke, of West Avenue, Wednesfield, died on January 2 after New Year's Eve celebrations turned sour. Det Sgt Angela Baggott told Black Country Coroners Court that 50-year-old Clarke had got into an altercation with Dillon Price at The Boat Inn, Wednesfield.

She said: "Mr Clarke jumped on Mr Price's back and threw a number of punches. Mr Price turned around and punched him once, which knocked him out. He left the pub to go to the Royal Tiger, two or three minutes away. He took his bike. Witnesses said people were asking him if he wanted an ambulance but he refused. He went outside and got on his bike, but fell off, hitting his head."

An ambulance was called. He was found to have a bleed on the brain at New Cross Hospital, and it was decided the next day that nothing could be done to save him and his life support was turned off.

Dr Nicholas Hunt said in his pathologists report, which was read out by Black Country senior coroner Zafar Siddique, that it could not be determined whether the punch or the blow to the head after Mr Clarke fell from his bike had killed him.

DS Baggott said that no further action was taken against Mr Price after his initial arrest.

Delivering an open verdict, Mr Siddique said: "I can't be sure in terms of which of the blows caused his death."

## Teams praised over services

ADOPTION and fostering teams in Walsall have been praised for their work in providing homes for some of the borough's most vulnerable children and young people. Council officers have praised workers in the sector as part of their latest report.

The report written by Walsall Council's assistant director for early help, Andrea Potts, claims that recruiting an additional 18 new fostering households coupled with the appointment of a specialist recruitment and promotions worker is helping promote fostering across the borough, helping to recruit new fostering families to care for Walsall children.

Councillor Rose Burley, Education and Children's Services chief said: "It's encouraging to see the outcomes that are being achieved."

## Classic and funky jazz at arts centre

WALSALL Jazz Orchestra is performing jazz, classics and contemporary jazz funk at the borough's Forest Arts Centre on September 26.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets, costing £4, are available on the door. Call 0300 5552898 for details.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Burglars steal two cars in house raid

TWO cars were among the items stolen from a home in Great Wyrley. A Ford Focus and a Fiat 500 Abarth as well as a handbag, wallet, laptop and camera were stolen from a house in Hilton Lane. The thieves approached the rear of the property sometime overnight on August 21 and 22. They then attempted to snap the patio door lock without success so they broke through the kitchen door to gain entry. Keys to the cars were taken before they made off in the cars. Anyone with details on the criminals or the cars should contact Staffordshire Police on 101.

Black Country ales at Brum festival

BRUMMIES will be enjoying a taste of the Black Country at the city's biggest beer festival this autumn. Beers from Backyard Brewhouse, Walsall; Fixed Wheel Brewery, Blackheath and Holden's Brewery, Woodsetton, will be among the more than 250 ales featured in the Birmingham Beer and Cider Festival. The annual Campaign for Real Ale event is again being staged in New Bingley Hall, Hockley Circus, from October 27 to 29. There will also be more than 70 ciders and perries with admission £5.

Fabulous flowers and vegetables

HOMEGROWN flowers and vegetables will be in the spotlight at Darlaston Allotments and Gardens Association's annual flower and vegetable show on September 10. The association is inviting members of the public to join them at 2.30pm at Darlaston Town Hall, followed by the awards presentation at 4pm. Entrants can set up their exhibits from 9am to noon. Anyone interested in entering may contact Colin Higgs on 01902 602625 for information and a schedule.

AJ's Ales open day for anniversary

A BREWERY is holding an open day to mark its second anniversary. There will be four beers on tap at AJ's Ales in Long Acre Street, Walsall, on October 1. A new beer is also being brewed specially for the day and bottles of AJ's Stuck On Blondes will also be on sale. The brewery was started by Andy and Charlotte Dukes from Leamore.

Orchestra performs

THE Senior Citizens Orchestra will perform at Walsall's Forest Arts Centre. A range of classical favourites will be played on September 1, from 2pm. Tickets costing £1 are available on the door or can be booked in advance by calling 0300 5552898.

Fraudster in £43,000 claims is spared jail

A 60-YEAR-OLD trickster who illegally pocketed more than £43,000 in a long-running benefits fraud was spared jail. Mohammed Ali kept the fact he part-owned two houses secret from the Department of Work and Pensions for almost 14 years. He had made a legitimate claim for benefits after falling ill in 2003 and started collecting income support, employment support and council tax benefit. Then the family was hit by tragedy, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

One of his sons was killed in a road accident which left another son severely disabled and this led to an insurance pay out of more than a million pounds to the badly-injured survivor. Ali's name was on the deeds of two houses subsequently bought by the family in Hunter Crescent and Harder Road in 2009 and 2010.

This put the value of his assets over the £16,000 ceiling for those who can legitimately claim the benefits he was receiving. But Ali did not tell the authorities of the change in his circumstances and continued to pocket the payouts for a further 14 years.

Following a tip-off Department of Work and Pensions officials launched. Ali, who was of previous good character, insisted that his son had only put his name on the deeds to allow him to collect rent from the tenants.

Officials argued that he had been given a share of the houses. The defendant from Gower Street, Walsall continued to deny illegally claiming benefits but was found guilty of five charges of illegally obtaining benefits and one of making a false statement after a trial. Recorder Stewart Sprawson gave Ali a nine month jail sentence suspended for two years. He said: "The explanation you gave for how your name appeared on the deeds was ludicrous. You have failed at any stage to acknowledge your guilt. But you suffer from both physical and mental difficulties."

Terrorism fears over travel plans

MORE than four in 10 people in the West Midlands are concerned about terrorism affecting their travel plans, according to new research.

A survey conducted by International Travel and Healthcare, conducted with YouGov, showed 26 per cent believed travel insurance policies usually covered the cost of cancelling a trip if an act of terrorism had occurred, while 29 per cent believed it covered the cost of cutting a trip short for the same reason.

Some 38 per cent believed travel insurance would provide cover for delays as a result of an act of terrorism when the reality is few, if any, are covered under standard travel insurance.

Also, 30 per cent who had taken out travel insurance always read their policy wording fully with 50 per cent reading only 'some parts'.

Rock gig set in Stone for Slade Rooms



The band, picture by Samantha Knight

A WALSALL quartet who formed from the fragments of two local bands will headline Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms this autumn.

On November 12, Stone Broken will showcase new songs like Let Me Go, Stay All Night and Better. Vocalist/guitarist Rich Moss said the band were heading in the right direction, having signed a record deal with Frontiers Music.

He said: "Signing with such a prestigious label as Frontiers is a dream come true. It is a validation of all the hard work we have put in and a testi-

mony to our ever-increasing and loyal fan-base.

"We are now writing our second album, which will be the first with Frontiers. Once again, we will be recording with award-winning producer Romesh Dodangoda (Motörhead, Bullet For My Valentine, Bring Me The Horizon) and can't wait for you all to hear it. Then we are going to tour, tour, tour and play every goddamn town we can."

Meanwhile, Mario De Riso of Frontiers Music said he envisaged big things for the band. He said: "Stone

Broken are another perfect example of this new wave of British hard rock bands. They have monster riffs and hooks to die for.

"We expect them to become a major player soon."

The band's debut album, All In Time, received glowing reviews in the national press while Stone Broken were also honoured at this year's Planet Rock Awards in the Best New Band category – a public vote.

Tickets cost £10.13 (£9 plus admin fees) and are available at www.wolvescivic.co.uk

Mayor says under fire road humps must stay

CONTROVERSIAL speed humps that motorists claim have damaged their cars should remain in place, according to the mayor of Walsall.

Hundreds of people signed a petition calling for the humps on Goscote Lane, Bloxwich, to be ripped up and lowered, insisting that the undersides of their cars were catching against them.

The traffic calming measures were installed to tackle speedsters after a number of serious collisions in recent years, and Councillor Kath Phillips believes they are exactly what the area needed. She said: "It been a speeding road for a very long time. Having the speed bumps there is the best thing that could have happened. Most of the residents I represent there are more than delighted.

"People have got to slow down, there have been so many accidents. I came home in a taxi once and the driver was doing 70mph down there. As far as I'm aware, people are more than happy that the bumps are there. The only people who aren't happy are the ones who want to speed and use it as a short cut instead of using the main road to Bloxwich.

Bouncing

"It's taken years to get anything done. I've seen cars bouncing over them at speed, it's not a very clever thing to do. It won't do their cars any good. When I go over them I slow right down, and haven't had any problems. If people use them properly and drive as they should, there is no problem.

"I think in general, too much speeding goes on in this country. I'm a magistrate at Cannock, and we see about 200 speeding motorists a week. If people saw the results of some of the accidents cause by speeding, it would slow them down."

The idea to install the humps was first touted following 14 crashes between 2010 and 2013 on the route. In December 2012 a car ploughed into a home in nearby Goscote Place causing thousands of pounds worth of damage, and residents claimed it was the third time a vehicle had left the road and careered into a home in the area in 10 years.

That same month a Ford Fiesta ST overturned leaving two people inside requiring hospital treatment. So far the petition has garnered 915 signatures. It is at www.change.org/p/walsall-council-address-the-raised-speed-hump-issue-on-goscote-lane-walsall



Ellie seen in the ocean with free diving expert Hanli Prinsloo



Getting up close and personal with the dolphins on the TV documentary

Ellie tries to wave farewell to fears

IT'S not an usual sight, Walsall's star swimmer Ellie Simmonds underwater, just perhaps not with dolphins by her side.

You wouldn't think it, but the double Paralympic gold medal winner and MBE and OBE achiever is in fact terrified of the sea. Her phobia is so bad that Ellie was featured in an ITV documentary to try and overcome her fears and fulfil a childhood ambition of swimming with dolphins.

Ellie, aged 21, admitted that she has always been afraid of the sea. The pool for her is a 'controlled environment'. She said that the sea is "vast, it's open, it's not being able to know what's underneath you."

The swimmer hoped that by appearing on the programme she will encourage others to keep positive and face their fears. Although it was shown over the weekend, it is still available to view on the ITV Player.

Now Ellie is looking forward to taking part in the Paralympic Games, after Team GB's sterling performance in the Olympics.

Ellie said: "I'm really excited. I'm just going to go

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Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership



Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople

perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

Locally Cloudy2Clear service Walsall & the surrounding areas and manager Brian Stanley agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good

business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Problem of where this rail hub is stationed

SANDWELL & Dudley railway station didn't get off to the best start. When it was upgraded to inter-city status amid much fanfare back in 1984, the driver of the first express train forgot to stop, leaving the civic bigwigs stranded on the platform.

Now with threats of cuts to its inter-city services, our local leaders are fighting back. West Midlands Rail, a consortium of councils across the West Midlands, says Sandwell & Dudley should be modernised to reflect its status as a "Black Country hub".

Normally, I switch off the moment anybody says the word 'hub'. But any investment in the Black Country's threadbare rail network is something that should be welcomed.

The problem with Sandwell & Dudley is that, despite its grandiose name, it is a bit in the middle of nowhere. Before the inter-city upgrade, it was plain Oldbury, but even that was a bit above its station. In truth, it is next to a tyre fitter's between Oldbury and West Brom. Which is great if you want to go to London while having your tyres fitted, but that tends to be a niche market.

What they should have done was upgraded Dudley Port, up the road in Tipton, instead. This, too, is a bit out of the way, but it was also an interchange for the old South Staffordshire line, which used to link up with Stourbridge, Dudley, Wednesbury, Walsall and Lichfield. Imagine if that was reopened, and you could get from Wednesbury to London or Manchester with just one change. That would put the Black Country on the rail map. A hub with spokes.

As recently as last year there were plans to introduce a rudimentary very light rail service linking Dudley Port to Dudley town centre. I thought it was fantastic, but local government deemed it a threat to its beloved Midland Metro.

We could have seen the first stage of reconnecting vast swathes of the Black Country to the national rail network. Instead, we got an artists' impression of a tram outside Dudley Zoo.

□ □ □

THE so-called 'burkini' must be one of the most ridiculous garments ever invented. The idea of sunbathing while dressed up like somebody from the Scottish Widows advert is inexplicable, and given that it only appeared during the past 10 years or so, it can hardly be described as fundamental to Islam.

Yet how can anybody fail to be appalled at the sight of four armed French policemen swaggering across the beach in Nice and ordering a Muslim woman to remove her clothing?

Incidentally, two of the coppers in the picture were wearing knee-length shorts with their body armour. Maybe they are not in the best position to tell people what to wear?

## 25 years of research on regiment finally comes to fruition

### SGT JAMES PITT



Noted for bravery

James William Pitt was born in Hednesford in April 1885 and was commended for his bravery after reorganising a trench garrison when he was buried under debris and injured after shells hit his position.

### PTE WILLIAM MANFORD



Joined up aged 15

Born in 1898, William was the son of William and Jane Manford, and had lived in Smith Street in Bilston. He won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery when retrieving a machine gun.

### PTE CHARLES TUCKLEY



Served in France

Private Charles Henry Tuckley, who was originally from Walsall but lived in Wood Green, near Wednesbury, was awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal, for his acts of gallantry during a patrol at Guinchy.

### L/CPL JOHN GOUGH



Wounded in battle

John Gough was born on December 4 in 1890 at Darlaston. He was taken prisoner on October 31, 1914, near Gheluvelt in Belgium then held as a PoW. He got a Distinguished Conduct Medal.

# Insight into the lives of 'ordinary' soldiers

A historian has captured the mood of troops in the Great War through their own words. **TOM OAKLEY** reports

**IT tells the tales of men from across Staffordshire and the Black Country who fought for their King and country in the First World War.**

South Staffords at War is an anthology with collections of biographies, newspaper reports and diaries from 25 years of research on soldiers of the South Staffordshire Regiment.

Collated by Andrew Thornton, who is originally from Cannock, it gives an insight into the life of soldiers including former workers with the Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star - Joseph Nicholls of Wombourne and Ronald Lerry of Oswestry.

The work is split into two volumes, with both of them featuring soldiers' stories from the Great War.

Soldiers from across the West Midlands - Hednesford, Cannock, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Tipton, among others - are included.

### Thinking

Andrew told of how words written by the troops during the war are sometimes neglected in books.

He said: "I've been interested in soldiers of the South Staffordshire Regiment for about 25 years now.

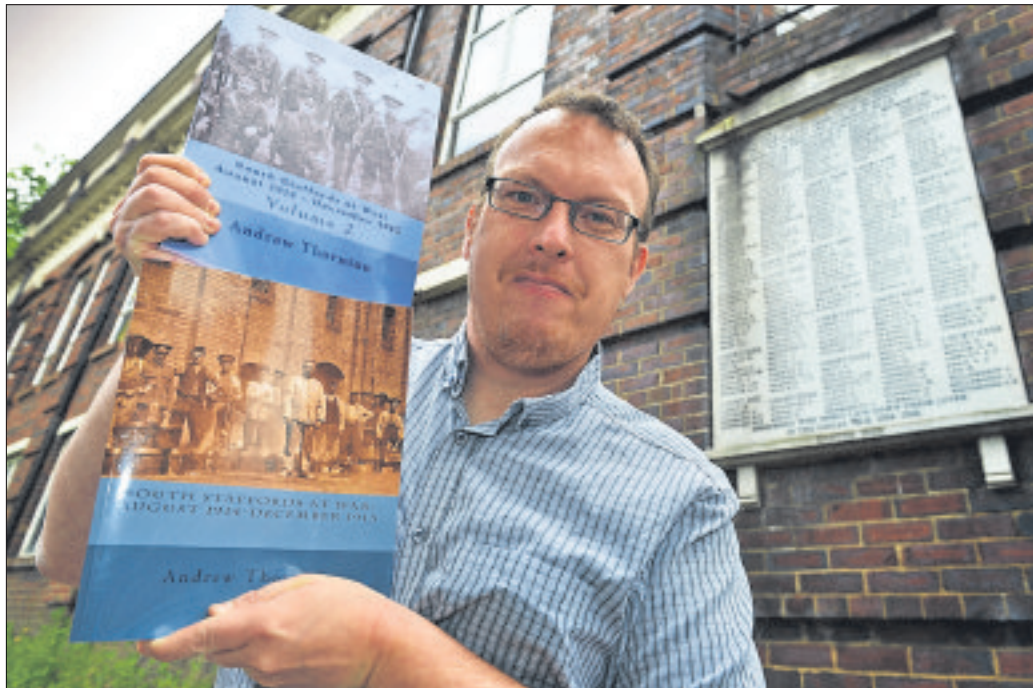
"I wanted to tell the soldiers' stories, and use their letters, because I don't think many people know what the soldiers were thinking at the time.

"There are constantly articles of the untold story but usually it isn't untold and it's been told many times before.

"I just wanted to put their own words and thoughts out there for people to read themselves.

"I think a lot of time, similar books focus only on the soldiers on war memorials, but this book tells the story of those that survived the war as well as soldiers that died."

Andrew was invited to Westminster Abbey earlier this year after his work was spotted on Facebook. He contributed the account of a



Andrew Thornton with his books on the South Staffordshire Regiment in the Great War, by the Ancient Order of Foreresters memorial at St Lukes, Cannock

soldier, Sidney Richards, from West Bromwich, who was at Gommecourt on July 1, 1916.

The words were read out by an actor in front of an audience featuring the Queen and former Prime Minister David Cameron.

Andrew added: "The book tells the tales of ordinary soldiers.

"A lot of people read war poetry and about those that have been executed at war for desertion, but these are just ordinary soldiers that don't get much recognition usually.

"I've been researching soldiers for 25 years

now, since I was at Wolverhampton University. It's been a long time but I've had a bit of time on my hands recently.

"I'd been helping people with their own books so I thought it was time to do my own," he added.

"I enjoy being able to find out about the men and sharing the stories. It's nice to be able to get hold of a piece of information like a letter or name and seeing what you can find out about them."

Andrew, who now works as a full-time his-

torical researcher, has used various methods to gather the stories and letters to go in the book, many of which were published in local newspapers during the Great War.

Others are from diaries which have been provided by relatives of the soldiers.

"It's nice if relatives of people in the book might come across it and find out something they didn't know. That's why I do it," Andrew added.

The books are currently available on Amazon and from The Museum of Cannock Chase.

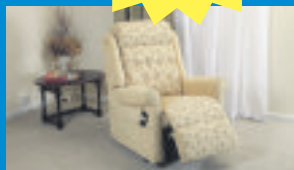
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# Corbyn's the favourite in my book

THE wheels are coming off the bandwagon to unseat Jeremy Corbyn and the incessant propaganda is backfiring. The pitiful Owen Smith will do well to finish second in a two horse race. The campaign to remove the Labour Party leader is based on the assumption that he cannot win a general election. The doom and gloom merchants rely on peering through their unscientific crystal balls. Yet the two most recent polls have

Inspiring stuff from our team

INSPIRATIONAL. Team GB, they are inspiring. Congratulations, not only for the part they have played in the games at Rio 2016, but the effect they have on so many others. Those that have dreams, those that are prepared to work and strive, whatever their present circumstances. There will be joy, satisfaction and reward. You may not always be at the front, but gaining your own real confidence enables you to go on. Believe in yourself, you too will have that ability to achieve. Ages does not count, whether you are young Amy, or the golden oldie. Neither colour, or race matter. Having that belief in yourself, with honesty, not to put the blame onto others, be responsible to yourself and you will succeed. You have a dream, reach for it, with mind and body, and it's yours – that's a promise. **RAY HAMMOND** Aldridge

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Labour ahead. Indeed, MORI show them five points in front of the Tories, with the Liberal Democrats a distant third. And two leading bookmakers have made Jeremy Corbyn the red hot favourite to be our next PM. It is easy to imagine just how popular he and his party will become, once they have put down their own Conservatives!

**P BRYANT** Burntwood

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Walsall Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

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expressandstar.co.uk

## Vaccine for teens to help beat meningitis

IN the UK every university could experience at least one case of meningitis among its students within the first term. Meningitis can kill within hours. For those who survive, many are left with life-changing after-effects

Young people, and particularly first year university students are at an increased risk from meningococcal bacteria which can cause meningitis and septicaemia. Early signs can go undetected, and in young people can be put down to a bout of the flu, or even a hangover. There are five main groups of meningococcal bacteria that commonly cause disease, Men A, B, C, W and Y.

A report published last year showed a 430 per cent increase in Men W cases from 2009 to 2014, leading to the nationwide introduction of a Meningococcal ACWY vaccine for teenagers

and young people through the NHS. Last year, 14 and 15-year-olds began to be vaccinated at school, and a top-up programme was introduced for 17 and 18-year-olds through their GP.

Although they were contacted by post about the vaccine, only 35 per cent of this age group made an appointment, meaning that thousands are still at risk. Taking exams, completing course work, passing your driving test and going to the pub can all get in the way of putting your health first at this age.

This is why we are calling on parents to talk to them about the vaccine now, before they head off to uni. For more information, or to download the signs and symptoms app for your phone visit [www.meningitisnow.org](http://www.meningitisnow.org).

**LIZ BROWN**  
Chief Executive

## Kenny and club revival

YOUR reporter Tim Spiers was harsh on Kenny Jackett in the E&S report of the Birmingham derby.

I think the seeds for the present optimism at Wolves were sown in the dark days of League One.

I was one of a smattering of fans who went to the dreary suburbs of Colchester in 2013 to see Jackett's new signings energise the team which won promotion back to the Championship.

Following Kenny Jackett's arrival I always felt welcome at 'my club'. I really feel now that I am part of 'Team Wolverhampton'.

The encouragement that the away fans at St Andrew's on Saturday gave to our lads despite a disappointing first half shows that I'm not the only one lifted by the changed attitude at the club.

**JOHN ROWLEY**  
Wolverhampton

## Better pint in Boris pub

RE: Pippa Armstrong's report about the Camra YouGov survey – politicians running the local.

Jeremy Corbyn as a landlord, he can't even manage the Labour Party with any proper authority. All those Remainers in his pub, the Red Flag Inn, would still be crying in their beers complaining about the outcome of the referendum result. No I think I will go to Boris Johnson or Nigel Farage's local, they would be far more friendly and happier hostellers to enjoy your pint.

**G SIMPSON**  
Darlston

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## Blooming wonder as land transformed



At the front is community worker Subera Begum, with garden volunteers at The Little Oasis in Caldmere

A BARREN piece of land has been transformed into a community garden for Walsall residents.

The piece of land off Carless Street, in Caldmere, has become Caldmere Community Garden after a near five-year transformation process was completed.

The derelict land was originally owned by Walsall Housing Group but residents of Caldmere came together to take control of the land and turn it around.

Now residents are able to pay £5 a

year to take a plot in the garden where they are able to grow their own vegetables. Labour Councillor Aftab Nawaz, who covers the St. Matthews ward, has been a keen supporter of the new garden.

### Positive

He said: "It was a derelict piece of land owned by the housing group but residents came together through the village festival group to propose something different for the land."

"Fruit and veg do not grow in Asda

and Tesco so I was keen to encourage people to get growing their own food."

"I think it is a really positive step for the area and residents have already taken a lot of pride in it."

"It is a wonderful place to spend some time. It is important to remember that some people do not have access to a garden where they live so this is great for them."

As well as being a tranquil area to spend some time relaxing and a vegetable patch, the garden also hosts an open cinema.



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# Green ideas needed in region, says politician

AREAS of the Black Country are in 'desperate need of 'green' ideas', according to the departing leader of the Green Party.

Natalie Bennett – who has spearheaded the party for four years but will soon step down – said small, independent businesses could revitalise the economy in Wolverhampton and Walsall.

The Australian-born former journalist visited both areas as part of a farewell tour.

In its 2015 General Election manifesto the Green Party pledged to promote small businesses.

Ms Bennett, said: "Areas like Walsall and Wolverhampton, where I have visited today, are in desperate need of 'green' ideas. "There are so many empty shops in the town centres and the local councils seem to believe that the answer is to knock them down and then bring in the big chain stores rather than the smaller, independent businesses.

## Insecure

"It is the independents which would keep money in the area, provide good job opportunities and give the chance for people to do their own thing.

"With the big chain stores you are more than likely going to get zero-hour contracts, minimum wages and insecure employment. The money goes out of the area and very often into the nearest tax haven. What we need is strong, local economies."

Ms Bennett visited Big Centre TV in Walsall before stopping off at the Refugee and Migrant Centre in Wolverhampton and the city's Gatis Community Space, where she was shown around by Director Maria Billington.

The old Gatis Street adventure playground in Whitmore Reans was taken over by a community group last year



Green party leader Natalie Bennett, centre, visits the Gatis Community space, and is seen with left, director Maria Billington and Charlotte Brown having previously fallen victim to cuts made by Wolverhampton council.

Ms Bennett made time to speak to youngsters helping out at the centre as part of the National Citizen Service 'The Challenge' programme and encouraged them to become involved in grass-roots campaigns in their communities.

She said: "It is hugely inspiring what volunteers have delivered here in a very short space of time. It is not just the physical progress which has been made but all the people involved

and what they will have got out of it."

She added she felt she had left the party in better shape than when she first became leader in September 2012.

"I said that I wanted to grow the party and our membership has increased four times over. I said I wanted the party to be a major national player and ahead of last year's General Election we were in the televised debates. If you look at some of our policies like a 20mph speed limit and the living wage, they are now being implemented and are now considered mainstream."

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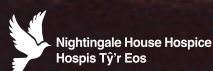
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# Shocking attacks on NHS staff revealed

**A HOSPITAL worker in Walsall is attacked almost once every two days, figures have revealed – and the problem is getting worse.**

The trust which runs the Manor Hospital has confirmed in 12 months there were 174 incidents of physical violence or assaults against staff.

In 65 of the cases a physical injury was inflicted to an employee's person. The figures, obtained by a freedom of information request, relate to the period from April 1, 2015, to March 31 this year and show a substantial increase on the number of reports on previous years.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust explained that attacks occur for a range of reasons including patients being under the influence of drugs or alcohol as well as also being related to their own medical condition.

The Manor's medical director Amir Khan said: "We do not tolerate acts of violence and aggression towards our staff, who work extremely hard to deliver care often in challenging circumstances. However, there may be occasions when our staff have to treat a patient

**By Nathan Briant**

displaying behaviour that puts themselves, or others, at risk of harm.

"This can be for a number of reasons including patients who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs or it is possible that a person's health condition or medication could also cause them to display aggression."

Figures for previous years indicate the problems are getting worse despite a yellow and red card system being introduced to warn and even exclude patients.

Mr Khan added: "The safety and security of our patients, visitors and staff is a priority for the Trust and our red and yellow letter system was introduced to help combat abusive or threatening behaviour for

**Doggy bags £30k from coach driver**



Coach driver Shaun Stead with the cheque for £30,000 and Rio the dog at Canine Partners' HQ in Leicestershire

A WALSALL coach driver has set tails wagging with a special donation. Shaun Stead, who drives coaches for National Express, presented £30,000 to help dogs charity Canine Partners.

He presented the donation before International Dog Day, which was celebrated on Friday. The charity supports people including those in the military injured in service.

Shaun presented the cheque at Canine Partners' Leicestershire base. He lives in Leamore and drives a number of different routes for National Express, including services to Coventry, Oxford and Gatwick Airport.

He said: "As a driver we welcome on board people from all walks of life, including many people who have accessibility issues and are supported by assistance dogs. Traveling is such an important part of being independent and it makes me really proud National Express has reached this donation milestone and is working with Canine Partners to help even more people live life to the full."

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Chronicle 16



# Cyclists back on track with velodrome



Track league secretary Kevin Smith, of Willenhall, at Aldersley Leisure Village, Wolverhampton

CYCLISTS inspired by the success of the Rio Olympics can get back in the saddle and take advantage of a newly-reopened velodrome.

Work to replace fencing around the track perimeter has now been completed at the velodrome, at Hugh Porter Way, in Wolverhampton.

The project has taken two months to complete and the velodrome was temporarily off limits.

The decision to replace the ageing fence at the council-run leisure centre was taken earlier this year in order to safeguard the long-term future of cycling at the venue.

British Cycling funded the majority of the project, with contributions from the Wolverhampton City Council, the Wolverhampton Wheelers Cycling Club who are regular users of the cycle track and the Bob Maitland Legacy Fund, which promotes racing cycling in the West Midlands.

The work included track repairs, replacement of drainage covers and the painting of new track lines.

Kevin Smith, of Wolverhampton Wheelers Cycling Club, who lives in Willenhall, was among the cyclists who took advantage of the facility when it reopened last Monday.

John Ireson, of Wolverhampton Wheelers, has had lots of enquiries from cyclists keen to join after British Olympic success, and believes having the reopened facility will help turn interest into members.

He said: "It's very good news that it's reopened. We were using the running track while the velodrome was closed. It's good to have a closed circuit, it provides a safe environment for our members, who range from age six to 91."

"We've got just short of 400 members at the moment, but since just last Friday I've had over 50 enquiries."



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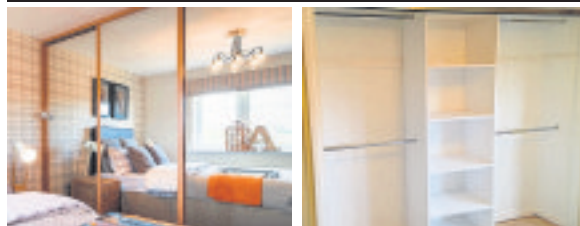
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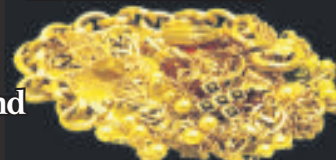
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The start of the Staffs & Worcs Canal at Great Haywood



The old Newbridge Boat Co sign, part of the TTHC exhibition



Henwood Lane, a quiet country road, before the canal came along



Compton Lock, where the canal was started



Aldersley Junction, where the Birmingham Canal Navigations linked

# Volunteers engineer First Cut re-enactment

THIS weekend, canal engineer James Brindley will be returning to Compton. Or at least a member of the Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre team, dressed as him will.

It will be part of a re-enactment of the historic start of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal at Compton Lock on Sunday (September 4).

It was in the first week in September 1766, that the first spade went into the ground, the First Cut, near the junction of Compton Road and Henwood Lane, just inside the Wolverhampton boundary.

This was to be the first major

## MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

transport link across the country, and the stretch through Tettenhall to Compton was to be the highest level of the canal, and Compton Lock, the first descent towards the Severn, was to set the width of all subsequent locks.

Brindley had made his name designing the Duke of Bridgewater's canal in Lancashire, and was to head a team building the Trent & Mersey and then the Staffs & Worcs from Stourport, on the Severn, to Great Haywood and the River Trent, opening up the country to Black Country coal and iron goods, via the Birmingham Canal

Navigations which linked to the new canal in 1772 at Aldersley.

This year is also the 300th anniversary of Brindley's birth, but ill-health meant he never saw the revolution in transport he created.

The canals were dug by hand, with shovel and wheelbarrow, and the re-enactment will also be a tribute to those many labourers those 'navvies', who toiled to build the marvellous engineering feat which is the British canal network.

The re-enactment will take place from 11am at Compton Lock, and 'Mr Brindley' will then lead his team along the towpath of 'his' canal the 800 yards to the Heritage Centre at Tettenhall Station, to unveil an exhibition about 'The First Cut'.



Canal engineer James Brindley

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# Brummie musician Alan's heartfelt gig

A REMINDER has gone out about a unique rock 'n' roll fundraiser in aid of the cardiology department at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals.

Brummie musician Alan Johnson – who has played with the likes of Black Sabbath and ELO – organised the event to show his appreciation for the care he received.

Mr Johnson, aged 74, from Great Barr, was admitted to City Hospital cardiology unit last October and ended up staying for three weeks.

He said: "When I was under the care of the cardiology team, I was absolutely stunned by how dedicated they were to me. Now that I'm doing well, I thought I should do something to show them how appreciative I am for the help they

gave me." The night will be called 'An evening of rock 'n' roll featuring some of Birmingham's rock 'n' roll stars. Giving Heart Back to City Hospital'.

There will be four acts, with appearances from Emitt Till, Steve Gibbons, Alan himself, and the trust's own cardiology band – The Tympaniks.

The event is on September 10 from 7.30pm at Birmingham Shooting Centre on All Saints Street.

Tickets are now on sale for £10, with all proceeds going to the cardiology department. Contact Laura at laurabrowne@nhs.net or 0121 507 5689, Alan on 0121 360 7051, or call the Birmingham Shooting Centre on Saturdays, between 2pm and 5pm, on 0121 523 7232.



Organiser Libby Warren at the exhibition

# Cheers! Here's to past of pubs at exhibition

THE history of Walsall's pub scene is now available to relive through a new exhibition.

The 'Pubs Galore!' display opened at Walsall Local History Centre over the weekend and combines a nostalgic and evocative mix of photographs, reproduced documents and historic data of pubs gone by.

It is the brainchild of staff members, Libby Warren and Stuart Williams, with exhibits on loan from the former Walsall Museum.

The museum shared a few rounds of its own in the form of Victorian and Edwardian beer bottles from the legendary Rushall and Walsall brewers R.P. Culley & Co. Ltd., Duncan Watt, Lords Ltd., and Holmes and Moss.

Moving on a few decades, visitors

might like to try their hand with some 1940s playing cards advertising Twists Brewery and then make their way into the snug, courtesy of the original room signs from the 'White Lion' on Hospital Street, Green Lane.

The display also covers 1980s promotional bar material, such as branded bar towels, beer mats and ashtrays advertising Highgate Brewery ales.

Organiser Libby Warren said: "We hold a vast collection of archives relating to the pubs of Walsall and we have endeavoured to display examples of some of the wonderful photographs and documents that we hold here at the centre."

The exhibition will run until November 15, and admission is free.

# Chance to sail ahead at county club

FAMILIES can try sailing for free on Saturday at a club in Staffordshire. Beginners are welcome at Manor Park Sailing Club, in Kings Bromley, from 10am-4pm. The day is being held as part of the Royal Yachting Association's 'summer of sailing.'

Training principal Gary Robertson said: "Whether you're a newcomer, a family or you've sailed before and want to get back on the water, there is something for everyone."

Manor Park SC is situated just off the A513 between Rugeley, Alrewas and Lichfield.

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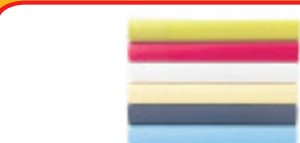
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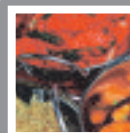
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## Busted are back

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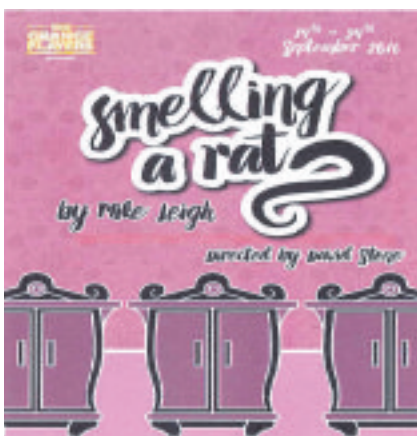


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# Brum beats all for David as Tempest time finally arrives

**He could have landed the biggest jobs in opera, but David Bintley has stayed in Birmingham for 21 years.**

An avid Villa fan, he loves the city and loves how embedded the Birmingham Royal Ballet is in the cultural landscape. Better offers may well have been made, but Bintley is a proud, honorary Brummie.

The former dancer who graduated to become artistic director of BRB – and who received a CBE for his services to dance in the Queen's 2001 Honours – has been working hard on his latest project, a production of *The Tempest*, which runs at the city's Hippodrome from October 1 to 8.

It will conclude BRB's 2016 Shakespeare season and was created with composer Sally Beamish, designer Rae Smith (War Horse) and lighting technician Bruno Poet (Miss Saigon).

"I've been thinking about doing *The Tempest* for more than 30 years," confirms David. "I was really waiting for the right composer to come along. Four years ago I heard the music of Sally Beamish and that was it. Within a week we were in touch."

### Terrific

"I'm particularly pleased because it's the first time a female composer has written a full-length ballet and I think it's great. It's absolutely terrific. I started choreographing it last August and now there's a big push. It's full steam ahead."

Fans have an extra incentive to attend the opening night – *The Tempest* will receive its world premiere on October 1. Bintley will conjure Prospero's magical isle from Shakespeare's late masterpiece into a spellbinding new work of ballet theatre.

The *Tempest* is a powerful story of a man determined to right past wrongs by all means in his power. The creative collaboration with Beamish, Smith and Poet intertwines themes of love, loyalty, and loss, punctuated by a comic duo, more than one dastardly conspiracy and a spectacular danced masque featuring gods and spirits.

"I am particularly excited about working with composers," Bintley adds. "I've been doing that since I was really young, since

1983. It's really thrilling. Rather than just taking music off the CD shelf, working with a living composer is more exciting."

"We sort of took two years to write the music. Sally wrote it but I was making suggestions as to length times or where there should be pauses so that we could introduce comedy."

"In terms of design we had Rae Smith, who is another lady, and whose most famous show was *War Horse*. She created wonderful designs rich in fantasy. I know I thought about this 30 years ago but sometimes you just have to wait that long. You have a very vague idea initially and that becomes more and more refined until the day you walk in the studio."

Bintley is proud of his work with BRB and has been thrilled by its progress. He remains excited about its future and is delighted that it is internationally-renowned.

"I celebrated 20 years last year of being with the company and it doesn't seem like two decades. It's been such a thrill being here and seeing the company grow, seeing the quality improve and watching the reputation improve."

"It's great being here, there's room to breathe. Ballet is an art form that in some quarters is considered elitist and out of reach. But in Birmingham, it's just another part of the city. We are about more than just putting on a show. There's education work and connections with business and other arts. We're part of the cultural landscape. That to me is fantastic."

"A company like this is continually evolving. We have more than 100 artists in terms of dancers and musicians and that's to say nothing of the admin and back-up. It's a big institution but it feels like a family."

Bintley's work spans many genres. He's been responsible for huge, populist masterworks like *Cinderella* and *Beauty and the Beast* as well as cutting edge, contemporary dance. Personally, I like the range," he adds. "I don't want to get trapped in one kind of piece. I like everything. But the thing I enjoy most is working with composers and making new things."

"It was wonderful to receive the CBE. It was recognition of the work I've done with everybody. It's never one person, it's always about the team. I just love being in this position and being able to develop



Birmingham Royal Ballet director, and avid Villa fan David Bintley

other people's careers." For a while, Bintley combined his BRB job with a similar role in Tokyo. It didn't last. "I gave that up a couple of years ago. I did four years as artistic director and two years prior to that. I loved it. I love Japan. It was enormously eye-opening to direct two companies."

"I gave it up because for six years I lived in jetlag land. In the end that was enough. I

made six trips a year and it was a killer."

He has big plans after *The Tempest*. "We have the usual excitements of the year with *The Nutcracker* coming back at Christmas. Then on the far horizon, we have a very exciting project surrounding what I would call new choreography. That's something that will be announced in the autumn."

By Andy Richardson

## Memories of time at the top are a bit Dodgy

**He calls an hour before we're due to chat, to make sure we'll call him at the appointed time.**

"Just making sure you'll be alright," says Matthew Priest, drummer with Britpop stalwarts Dodgy.

Then, like an archetypal rock'n'roller, Priest is nowhere to be found when we try to contact him. We leave a voice-mail. Nothing. Time passes. Nothing.

Dodgy by name. Dodgy by nature.

And then he calls back and is more apologetic than a railways announcer when leaves are all over the line.

"The service on our mobiles is hopeless," he says. "It keeps going in and out. It serves us right for living in the country."

Priest was one of the lynchpins of Britpop, with the band's famous links to the West Midlands, namely Bromsgrove and Redditch, as the drummer for power pop-rock trio Dodgy, he enjoyed hits with *Staying Out For The Summer*, *If You're Thinking Of Me*, *Good Enough*, among others.

Their third album, *Free Peace Sweet*, earned a platinum disc for cracking the 400,000 sales mark in the UK and cemented their place in the nation's affections.

And then it all unravelled... Singer Nigel Clark grew disillusioned and Dodgy were no more.

"We had those four years when it was full-on. It was a lifestyle," Priest explains. "Those things have to be 100 per cent full-on, you have to throw yourself into it completely and put everything else second."

"That's one of the reasons why Nigel got disillusioned. He had two kids 18 months apart and he put his kids first. There are lots of rock stars out there that put the



Dodgy – staying out for this summer, with a new album

drinking first or the band, but Nigel didn't. And all credit to him for that. This time around, we're being a little bit more respectful and canny about having families and the band as well."

Priest can't remember the minutiae of Dodgy's rise. Things got a little foggy after four-day benders. "There are memories I like and things I wish I could forget. It's like flashbacks, you know."

"There was a tour or a European date that was great fun. There was being in a studio recording Grassman and *Staying Out For The Summer*. There was the reaction from the fans at small gigs. There's loads of different things that come in and float around, but it would take a better man than me to put them in order."

"Everyone has something where they are firing on all cylinders and achieving things, you don't have to be in a

band for that." Dodgy were performing at the big Camper Calling festival over the weekend at Ragley Hall, in Warwickshire, alongside ABC, The Magic Numbers, The Hoosiers and Toploader.

"They seem to be throwing a lot of money at it and they want to make a go of it," Clark says of the festival. "It promises to be good. I want to stay 'til the Saturday and watch ABC. I loved them back in the day, when I was 12. I loved Lexicon of Love."

"Magic Numbers are on just after us, too, and they're mates, so I'll probably stay for that."

"With festivals, it all depends on who's on and what it's like. At some festivals, they just give you a Portakabin, if you're lucky, and the line-up is poor. But they've made the effort with this, we'll stick around. Besides, Nigel has a VW camper, so he'll be staying."

The festival show precedes the release of Dodgy's new album, *What Are We Fighting For?*

It's the follow-up to 2012's *Stand Upright In A Cool Place*, which was a commercial and critical success.

"What are we fighting for? We're fighting for love, mate, that's what," adds Priest. "We had a really good connection from the last album and we just let this one happen. We didn't have a record company breathing down our necks. We started producing songs we were really happy with. It's quite important to us to be releasing new music."

"We'll always play the hits. Not playing them would be like having a great centre forward and not sticking him on the pitch. It's what we do, it's who we are."

By Andy Richardson



# Giddy up! Busted are on track again



From left, Matt Willis, Charlie Simpson and James Bourne are back together for a gig at Wolverhampton Racecourse

**MATT Willis has a pretty simple requirement of fans at Busted's Wolverhampton Racecourse gig: "We want them to lose their minds."**

His band will line-up on Saturday night after a day of racing. Willis and bandmates James Bourne and Charlie Simpson will play for 90 minutes with hits like Year 3000, What I Go To School For, Crashed The Wedding, Air Hostess, and many more. "We've played a few racecourse gigs during the summer," he says. "They

came around at the last minute and we were like 'yeah, cool, book 'em'. We've done a few, the people are always up for a good time. They've been out on the lash all day watching the races. Then they want to see us come on so that they can lose their minds to a rock band. It's great fun."

The story of Busted MK II is, of course, the story of the in-out, in-out, shake-it-all-about manoeuvres of Charlie, meanwhile Matt and James got together with McFly for the mega-successful McBusted.

Matt says: "With McBusted, don't

get me wrong, it was great to be part of it and it was a bit of a laugh but it didn't feel like our band. Busted is where it's at. This is the band that me and James started when we were kids of 16 in our bedrooms."

"Charlie actually said yes to coming back before McBusted happened. But by the time he'd agreed, we'd already booked that tour. We kept in touch to see how he felt over the next year and it went from there. Then we all decided to go in the studio together and once we'd written new songs, it felt great."



**Returning to the Hippodrome after starring in panto**

## Back with a Bang Bang

BIRMINGHAM Hippodrome is motoring into autumn with a revival of family favourite musical Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. The West End blockbuster, based on a story by 007 author Ian Fleming, continues a run of hit shows at the Hippodrome following its bumper summer with Mama Mia!, which ends of Saturday.

The car is the star but the flying automobile is likely to be upstaged by a top-notch cast including Any Dream Will Do winner Lee Mead as Caractacus Potts and Carrie Hope Fletcher from Les Miserables as Truly Scrumptious.

Comic support will come from Phill Jupitus and Claire Sweeney as Baron and Baroness Bomburst, while the creepy Childcatcher will be played by former Jersey Boy Matt Gillet.

Get ready for a colourful spectacular featuring such songs as Hushabye Mountain, Me Ol' Bamboo and Chu-Chu Face and, of course, the famous theme song.

Essex-born Lee Mead first found fame via Sir Andrew Lloyd-Webber's TV talent show to find a new star to take on the title role in the 2007 West End revival of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

He has become one of the West End's most successful leading men with roles in Wicked, Legally Blonde The Musical as well as releasing several albums and enjoying successful concert tours. His is now best known as Lofty Chiltern in BBC TV drama Casualty. He is returning to the Hippodrome after starring as Aladdin in last year's panto.

### Soul sister gets in the musical habit

CHART-TOPPING singer Alexandra Burke is coming back to Birmingham in a new version of hit musical comedy Sister Act, directed and choreographed by Strictly's Craig Revel Horwood. Alexandra, who won The X Factor in 2008 and had a hit with Hallelujah, will be praising again as a club singer Deloris Van Cartier, hiding from gangsters in a convent, who adds a little soul into the nuns' choir.

The London-born actress wowed fans as Rachel Marron when The Bodyguard came on tour to Birmingham and Wolverhampton. Sister Act is at the New Alexandra Theatre from September 12 to 17.

### It's a walk on the Wilde side for Cathy

MONA Lisa and Band of Gold star Cathy Tyson takes on the role of the formidable Lady Bracknell when a new production of Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest comes to Birmingham Repertory Theatre.

Directed by Nikolai Foster and staged from September 9 to 24, Wilde's comedy of manners exposes the hypocrisies of late Victorian society. Cathy said: "Lady Bracknell is so well known. I've played Ophelia, I've played Cleopatra and lots of other famous characters but people have a really personal view on Lady Bracknell. They quote lines back at you!"

### Greg is down for another Civic night

COMEDY fans have another chance to see Shropshire comic Greg Davies, who has added an extra Wolverhampton date on his UK tour but be prepared for a long wait.

The Man Down star is performing a further show at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall, one of two nights at the venue on December 8 and 9, 2017. Spokesman Jonn Penney said: "Tickets are flying out for next year's Greg Davies show, so we're delighted to be adding an extra date."

Tickets are available at [www.wolvescivic.co.uk](http://www.wolvescivic.co.uk) website. Davies was also recently seen in Dave's comedy panel show Taskmaster.

# ENTERTAINMENT

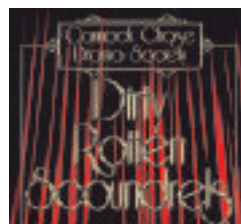
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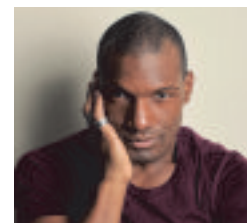
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## CHOICE



Tess Daly (left)

**Strictly Come Dancing: The Launch (BBC1, 6.50pm)**

New series. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the launch event in which this year's celebrities are paired up with their professional partners. The celebrity women shaking a leg or two are Birds of a Feather actress Lesley Joseph, singer-songwriter Anastacia, fashion model Daisy Lowe, TV presenter Laura Whitmore, former Eternal singer Louise Redknapp, BBC Breakfast host Naga Munchetty, Team GB gymnast Claudia Fragapane and EastEnders Tameka Empson. The men are double Olympic medal-winner Greg Rutherford, former shadow chancellor Ed Balls, singer Will Young, DJ Melvin Odom, Hollyoaks actor Danny Mac, sports presenter Ore Oduba, and TV legal eagle Robert Rinder.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** **10.00** Saturday Kitchen. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.10** Athletics: Diamond League Highlights. **2.15** Escape to the Continent. (R) **3.15** Film: Wreck-It Ralph. (2012) Animated adventure, with the voice of John C Reilly. **4.50** The Getaway Car. **5.40** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.

**6.00 Pointless Celebrities.** Tim Vine, Terry Alderton, Tracy-Ann Oberman, David Schneider, Richard Coles, Julia Hartley-Brewer, Arthur Smith and Arlene Phillips all take part in the unorthodox quiz show.

**6.50 Strictly Come Dancing: The Launch.** New series. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the launch event in which this year's line-up of celebrities are paired up with their professional partners.

**8.15 The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion.** A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together in order to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. The overseas family must answer questions to win time for their relatives in the UK studio, who will then individually answer questions against the clock. Nick Knowles hosts. Includes the all-important weekend draw.

**9.10 Casually.** As yet more emergency cases arrive at Holby's ER, relative newcomer Elle does her best to rally the troops. Meanwhile, Alicia is left in a difficult position after she discovers an uncomfortable truth. Medical drama, starring Jaye Griffiths and Chelsea Halfpenny.

**10.00 BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update.

**10.20 Film: Avengers Assemble.** (2012) A mystical artefact is stolen from a top-secret military base by Thor's brother Loki, who plans to use it to bring about an alien invasion. Spymaster Nick Fury brings together a team of superheroes, including Iron Man, Thor, Captain America and the Hulk, to defend Earth from the impending attack. Action adventure uniting the Marvel comic-book characters, starring Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans and Chris Hemsworth. **12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.40** BBC News.

## BBC2

**7.15** The Women's Football Show. (R) **7.45 Film:** The Magnificent Showman. (1964) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **11.00** Lost Land of the Tiger. (R) **12.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **12.45** Great British Menu. (R) **1.15** Great British Menu. (R) **1.45** Film: That's Entertainment: Part Two. (1976) Compilation of MGM highlights, introduced by Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly. **3.50** Robot Wars. (R) **4.50** Flog It! (R) **5.20** Gardeners' World. (R) **6.20 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice.** Jo Brand presents a companion show to BBC One's baking contest, featuring unseen footage from the programme and an interview with the week's eliminated baker. (R)

**6.50 Proms Extra 2016.** Katie Derham is joined by celebrated soprano Lesley Garrett, composer and musician Mark Simpson and conductor Simone Young, fresh from her Proms debut. Last in the series.

**7.30 Greece with Simon Reeve.** Part two of two. Simon travels from the Peloponnese peninsula into the mountainous north of the country. He meets local people including a group of rebel monks and conservationists caring for an injured bear, and discovers how they are coping with the political crises affecting Greece. (R)

**8.30 Dad's Army.** Private Pike receives his call-up papers and unexpectedly passes his medical, much to the horror of his mollycoddling mother. (R)

**9.00 Film: War Horse.** (2011) A farmer's son forms a close bond with a horse he trains, but is forced to give the animal up when it is sold to the British army during the First World War. The horse passes through various owners on both sides as he travels across the battlefields of France, while the boy refuses to give up on being reunited. Steven Spielberg's drama based on Michael Morpurgo's book, starring Jeremy Irvine, Tom Hiddleston and Benedict Cumberbatch.

**11.15 Film: Bikers Dory.** (2011) A teacher at a 1970s Welsh school persuades her students to stage a rock musical based on Shakespeare's The Tempest. Comedy drama, with Minnie Driver.

**1.00 Film:** Romantics Anonymous. (2010) **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.35** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.00** Ninjago: Rise of the Snakes. (R) **8.25** TV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Film: Columbo: A Stitch in Crime. (1973) **12.50** TV News. Weather. **1.00** Catchphrase. (R) **1.45** Tipping Point. (R) **2.45** Victoria. (R) **4.15** The X Factor. (R) **5.15** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)

**6.15 Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.30** ITV News: Weather. **6.45** You've Been Framed! (R) **7.15** Go for It. **8.15** The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary presents as the audiences continue.

**9.15 Newzoids.** New series. The satirical puppet-based sketch show returns, with Tom Daley, Donald Trump, Jeremy Corbyn, Tom Hiddleston and even Princess Charlotte receiving the Newzoids treatment.

**9.45 The Nation's Favourite Carpenters Song.** Richard Carpenter takes a seat at the piano to celebrate some of the musical hits he achieved alongside his sister Karen between 1969 and 1983. Over the course of 13 years, the California-born pair recorded 11 albums, 31 singles, and a selection of TV specials, and hit the top of the US charts with three number-one releases. However, their career was cut short by Karen's death in 1983, as the result of heart failure brought on her eating disorder. This programme charts the highs and devastating lows of the brother-sister duo's remarkable time in the limelight, and makes use of a new ITV poll revealing which Carpenters' song has been voted the UK's favourite. Features contributions by the Carpenters' friends and collaborators, including Burt Bacharach and Petula Clark, and famous fans such as Nicole Scherzinger, the Corrs, and Mylene Klass.

**11.05** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Pop Gold. Celebrating the best of the 1970s. (R) **12.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00** Mobil 1 – The Grid. **6.25** Outlaw Triathlon. **7.20** Motorsport: British Rally Championships. **7.50** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** The Morning Line. **9.55** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Practice 3 Live. **11.25** Murray Walker Meets Jensen Button. **11.55** Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Live. **2.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Haydock Park, Ascot and Kempton Park. **4.45** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. **5.45** Ugly House to Lovely House with George Clarke. (R)

**6.40 Channel 4 News.**

**7.00 Hidden Britain by Drone.** Part two of two. Tony Robinson presents aerial footage of areas of Britain that are off limits to the public, including a shipyard in Scotland where aircraft carriers are built and a shipwreck on the Kent coast that is filled with explosives. Plus, a gated community with a dark past, James Dyson's top-secret research laboratory, and a platform in the sea inhabited by people who wish to become an independent nation. (R)

**8.00 First Contact: Lost Tribe of the Amazon.** In June 2014, the world was transfixed by images of men emerging from the deepest Amazon rainforest for the first time. They were among the last people living on our planet who had had no contact with the outside world. In this documentary, film-maker Angus Macqueen gains access to this tribe, to Xani and Shimikau and their families, to find out how they lived, why they had remained isolated for so long and what finally brought them out of isolation. (R)

**9.00 Film: Lone Survivor.** (2013) Premiere. Four American soldiers are sent on a mission into the mountains of Afghanistan to track down and eliminate a high-ranking terrorist leader. They soon find themselves faced with a terrible moral dilemma and a battle for survival against overwhelming odds. Fact-based drama, starring Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch and Ben Foster.

**11.25 Film: The Family.** (2013) Comedy thriller, with Robert De Niro. **1.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.20** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.30** Superfoods: The Real Story. (R) **5.00** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **5.55** Gillette World Sport.

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **8.25** The Fairly OddParents. **9.00** The Saturday Show Live. **11.00** The Nighttime Neighbour Next Door. (R) **12.00** Murder House: Nighttime Neighbour Next Door. (R) **1.00** Nighttime Neighbour Next Door: Living in Fear. (R) **2.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.00** Police Interceptors: Under Attack. (R) **4.00** Police Interceptors: Dog Squad. (R) **5.00** Can't Pay? Benefits Special. (R)

**6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** In south London, a father-and-son team face death threats from a debtor's father, while in east London, a tenant claims to have had no prior warning that he is being evicted. (R)

**7.00 Adolf & Eva: Love & War.** Drama-documentary about Eva Braun, from her teenage infatuation with Adolf Hitler to their wedding and joint suicide in a Berlin bunker, exposes the power she wielded over the increasingly delusional fascist dictator. The film combines her home movies, with archive clips, dramatic reconstructions and interviews with the leading experts on the Nazi inner circle to reveal why she fell for a man like Hitler and just how much she knew about the murderous activities of the Nazi Party. (R)

**8.55 5 News Weekend.**

**9.00 NCIS: Death Wish.** Feature-length special. A man and his son on a fishing trip hook what appears to be the body of a petty officer, but the dead man turns out to be a journalist who had been investigating the proliferation of drugs in the Navy. Meanwhile, Ziva returns to her car after a workout at the gym to find her father Eli hiding inside. Guest starring Michael Nouri. (R)

**10.40 Football on 5: Goal Rush.** George Riley and Lynsey Higrave introduce all the goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two, which included Bolton Wanderers v Southend United at Macron Stadium.

**11.40 Criminals: Caught on Camera.** Journalist Nick Wallis joins police forces around the nation to discover how CCTV and technological advances are helping to bring criminals to justice. (R) **12.05** SuperCasino. **3.10** Suspects: The Enemy Within. (R) **4.50** Divine Designs. (R) **5.15** Nick's Quest. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Scotland's Home Movies: Memories on Film **8.00** Clydebuilt: The Ships That Made the Commonwealth **9.00** Beck: Eye of the Storm **10.30** The Story of Musicals **1.30** Top of the Pops: 1982 **2.10** Film: Janis: Little Girl Blue (2015) **3.40** Close ITV2

**11.30** Ninja Warrior UK **12.30** You've Been Framed! Gold: Kids **1.30** Film: Charlotte's Web (2006) **2.30** FYI Daily **2.35** Film: Charlotte's Web (2006) **3.20** Film: A Cinderella Story (2004) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** Film: A Cinderella Story (2004) **5.15** Film: Bean (1997) **6.15** FYI Daily **6.20** Film: Bean (1997) **7.05** Film: The Incredible Hulk (2008) **8.05** FYI Daily **8.10** Film: The Incredible Hulk (2008) **9.15** The Xtra Factor Live **10.15** Family Guy **11.40** American Dad! **12.40** Film: Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **1.45** FYI Daily **1.50** Film: Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **2.20** Mom **3.00** Teleshopping

**ITV3**  
**12.15** Film: Anne of Green Gables (1952) **2.00** Film: Forever Young (1992) **3.00** FYI Daily **3.05** Film: Forever Young (1992) **4.00** Foyle's War **6.00** Lewis **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.05** Wyddif 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

**ITV4**  
**11.25** Classic TT Highlights **12.25** British Superbike Championship Highlights **1.30** Arsenal Legends v AC Milan Legends: Live. **4.15** Football Rivalries **4.30** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **6.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) **9.10** FYI Daily **9.15** Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) **9.50** Film: Driven to Kill (2009) **11.55** Film: Red Heat (1988) **12.55** FYI Daily **1.00** Film: Red Heat (1988) **2.55** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **3.00** Teleshopping

**E4**  
**3.35** Film: ParaNorman (2012) **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Fantastic Four (2005) **11.05** Gogglebox **1.15** Rude Tube: Ultimate Stunts **2.25** Drifters **2.50** Cheving Gum **3.15** 2 Broke Girls **3.55** How I Met Your Mother **4.40** Revenge **Film4**  
**11.00** Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **1.00** Tooth (2004) **2.50** Inspector Gadget (1999) **4.30** Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012) **6.25** A League of Their Own (1992) **9.00** Identity Thief (2013) **11.15** Bram Stoker's Dracula (1992)

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CHOICE



Aidan Turner

**Poldark (BBC1, 9pm)**  
New series. Ross stands trial for his life, but refuses to make a deal with George to save himself. Francis is consumed with guilt over betraying his cousin and begs for a reconciliation – but rejection drives him to desperate ends. Demelza seeks the aid of a neighbour (John Nettles), whose daughter has caught Unwin's eye – but she seems far more interested in Dwight. Aidan Turner, Eleanor Tomlinson, Ruby Bentall, Caroline Blakiston, Beatie Edney and Jack Farthing star.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Eat Well for Less? (R) **3.00** Points of View. **3.15** Ingenious Animals. (R) **4.15** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **5.15** Songs of Praise. **5.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Reports on harvest time around the UK. Anita Rani picks peppermint to make cocktails, while Matt Baker discovers how harvesting has changed over the years at the Gaddesden Estate, and John Craven gathers cobnuts. Plus, Joe Crowley investigates how many of the farm brands on sale in supermarkets actually come from a farm, and Adam Henson celebrates 40 years of One Man and His Dog. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents from the show from Audley End, Essex, where experts value a sword that played an important role in the end of the American War of Independence, a collection of toilet chains and a silver container that once contained a goat's gallstone believed to have magical powers. The biggest shock of the day comes when Eric Knowles reveals the worth of a set of three vases decorated with fairies. **9.00** Poldark. New series. Ross stands trial for his life, but refuses to make a deal with George to save himself. Francis is consumed with guilt over betraying his cousin and begs for a reconciliation – but rejection drives him to desperate ends. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Room 101 – Extra Storage. Frank Skinner invites Bridget Christie, Greg James and Robert Peston to compete for the chance of getting their pet hates banished. **11.10** Film: *Insomnia*. (2002) A sleep-deprived detective accidentally kills his partner, and the murderer they were hunting sees him do it. Christopher Nolan's thriller, with Al Pacino and Robin Williams. **1.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.00** The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **11.30** Great British Menu. (R) **12.00** Great British Menu. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **1.30** Heir Hunters. (R) **2.15** Flog It! (R) **3.00** Equestrian: Burghley Horse Trials. **5.00** Film: John Carter. (2012) Fantasy adventure, starring Taylor Kitsch. **7.00** New York: America's Busiest City. Ade Adepitan, Anita Rani, Ant Anstead and Dan Snow take a closer look at one of the most complex and powerful cities in the world, focusing on transport links in the first edition. Anita, Ade and Ant head to Grand Central Terminal, joining the daily commute on the iconic Staten Island ferry as well as the subway, suburban railroad and citi bikes. Dan visits Times Square to see how the 230 LED advertising hoardings are maintained, while Ade takes a ride in a yellow cab, discovering that the business model is under threat from newly created taxi apps. (R) **8.00** A Very British Deterrent. **9.00** Dragons' Den. Peter Jones, Deborah Meaden, Touker Suleyman, Sarah Willingham examine the profit-making potential of more business plans, including an innovative form of nail gel, a toilet-flushing gadget for children, and a parking app from an entrepreneur whose company valuation stuns the panel. Hosted by Evan Davis. **10.00** Fleabag. Claire organises her own surprise birthday party. Fleabag helps her brother-in-law to find a present, and runs into an old friend. **10.30** Murder in Successville. DI Sleet enlists the aid of sports pundit Chris Kamara to investigate the murder of Successville's most famous racehorse, and uncovers a race-fixing conspiracy. **11.00** Imagine: Rio 50 Degrees – Carry on CaRiOca. Film-maker Julien Temple explores the cultural history of Rio de Janeiro, seen by many as a tropical paradise but ravaged by poverty and gun crime. (R) **12.45** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.40** Holby City. (R) **2.40** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **8.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **8.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **8.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **8.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **9.00** Soaky. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.35** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.00** Ninjago: Rise of the Snakes. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Chopping Block. (R) **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **1.25** Tipping Point. (R) **2.25** Victoria. (R) **3.30** The X Factor. (R) **4.30** World Cup Qualifier Live. Slovakia v England (Kick-off 5.00pm). **7.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **7.45** ITV News; Weather. **8.00** The X Factor. The next stage of the room auditions, as more would-be contestants find themselves face to face with judges Simon Cowell, Sharon Osbourne, Louis Walsh and Nicole Scherzinger in a very personal setting. Dermot O'Leary hosts the show, and is on hand to guide the aspiring singers through the first challenging stage of their road to a recording contract. **9.00** Victoria. King Leopold suggests to Victoria that she consider Prince Albert as a possible consort, a development that results in the young queen being surrounded by suitors seeking her hand in marriage. The young queen remains determined to rule alone, a declaration that leaves her uncle suspicious about her relationship with Melbourne. **10.05** ITV News; Weather. **10.20** World Cup Qualifier Highlights. Action from the latest 2018 World Cup qualifying matches, featuring Slovakia v England, Malta v Scotland, and Czech Republic v Northern Ireland. **11.35** Premiership Rugby Union. Highlights of the opening round of fixtures in English rugby's top-flight competition, including Northampton Saints v Bath, Harlequins v Bristol and Wasps v Exeter Chiefs. **12.35** Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00** Motorsport UK. Highlights from Snetterton. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights. The latest action. **4.40** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

**8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Live. Coverage of the 14th round of the season (Start-time 1.00pm). **3.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. **5.30** Channel 4 News. **6.05** Film: *Toy Story of TERROR!* (2013) Animated Halloween special, in which the Toy Story characters search for a missing friend at a spooky roadside motel. With the voice of Tom Hanks. **6.30** David Walliams presents a look at the author's 10 most popular children's books to mark the centenary of his birth. Viewers have the chance to vote for their favourite of the 10 novels featured, which include Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The BFG, The Witches, Matilda and The Twits. Featuring contributions from Steven Spielberg, Julie Walters, Richard Curtis, Mackenzie Crook, Jarvis Cocker, Johnny Vegas, Jessica Hynes and Miriam Margolyes. **8.00** Speed with Guy Martin. New series. The motorcycle racer competes in the Nevada Open Road Challenge, the fastest road race in the world, in which Highway 318 is closed to allow top of the line supercars to compete in time trials. Guy decides to make the challenge even greater by entering the contest in his Ford Transit van – but unfortunately, a crash has left the vehicle in need of some extensive repair work. He gathers a team of race engineers to rebuild the van and turn it into a racing machine capable of taking on some of the world's fastest cars. **9.30** Film: *The Wolf of Wall Street*. (2013) Premiere. A New York stockbroker rises from unemployment to become one of the richest men in the city's financial elite through an illegal scheme to defraud investors. His wealth brings him an outrageously debauched lifestyle, but comes at a price as the FBI become suspicious of his manipulation of the markets. Fact-based drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio. **1.05** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Highlights. **2.10** The World's Wildest Weather. (R) **3.05** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Pets. (R) **7.10** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.20** Paw Patrol. **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.10** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.50** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** The Fairly OddParents. **10.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.30** Now That's Funny! (R) **1.30** Film: *Penelope*. (2006) Romantic fantasy, starring Christina Ricci. **3.15** Film: *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*. (2009) Comedy, starring Kevin James. **5.00** Grannies Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **6.00** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. Dave Spikeley and Ellie Taylor introduce more animal antics, including greedy pigs, terrifying tortoises and an American parrot with a talent for stand-up comedy. (R) **7.00** Cricket on 5. England v Pakistan. Action from the fifth one-day international of the five-match series, which took place at The SSE SWALEC. **8.00** Inside the White House. Two-part documentary exploring American politics from the perspective of the Washington, DC residence at the heart of US government. (R) **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Most Shocking Celebrity Moments. A countdown of infamous incidents from the 1990s, including Hugh Grant's arrest and OJ Simpson's murder trial. The programme also looks back at Eric Cantona kicking a fan during a match, Jarvis Cocker interrupting Michael Jackson's performance at the Brit awards, and David and Victoria Beckham's lavish wedding. Featuring contributions from Louis Walsh, Shaun Ryder, Bez, Michael Burke, Darren Day, Gail Porter, Tim Vincent and Kerry Katona. **11.55** Autopsy: The Last Hours of Michael Hutchence. Richard Shepherd investigates the death of INXS frontman Michael Hutchence, who was found dead with a belt round his neck in his Sydney hotel room in November 1997. (R) **12.55** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Hotel Inspector Returns. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** BBC Proms 2016: CBSO Plays Tchaikovsky **8.45** Wild Scotland **9.00** Woolly Mammoth: Secrets from the Ice **10.00** Storyville: My Nazi Legacy **11.30** The Most Courageous Raid of WWII **12.30** The Beginning and End of the Universe **1.30** The Search for Life: The Drake Equation **2.30** After Life: The Strange Science of Decay **4.00** Close **ITV2**  
**12.15** The X Factor **1.15** The Xtra Factor Live **2.15** Funnies Ever You've Been Framed! Gold **3.15** Film: *Looney Tunes: Back in Action* (2003) **4.15** FYI Daily **4.20** Film: *Looney Tunes: Back in Action* (2003) **5.05** Film: *Hotel for Dogs* (2009) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10** Film: *Hotel for Dogs* (2009) **7.05** Film: *Jack and Jill* (2011) **8.05** FYI Daily **8.10** Film: *Jack and Jill* (2011) **9.00** The Xtra Factor Live **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.25** Bordertown **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**  
**11.00** Lewis **1.00** Film: *Columbo: Agenda for Murder* (1990) **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** The Murder of Sadie Hartley **10.35** Film: *Something's Gotta Give* (2003) **11.35** FYI Daily **11.40** Film: *Something's Gotta Give* (2003) **1.05** Wire in the Blood **3.35** May the Best House Win **5.20** Rising Damp **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen **ITV4**  
**12.00** Cycling: *Vuelta a Espana* **1.00** Cycling: *Tour of Britain Live* **4.00** World Cup Goalscorers **4.15** Pawn Stars **4.45** Film: *Tobruk* (1967) **5.50** FYI Daily **5.55** Film: *Tobruk* (1967) **7.00** Cycling: *Vuelta a Espana* **8.00** Cycling: *Tour of Britain* **9.00** Premiership Rugby Union **10.00** Film: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2011) **11.10** FYI Daily **11.15** Film: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2011) **1.15** Cycling: *Vuelta a Espana* **2.10** Hell on Wheels **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**  
**12.00** Coach Trip: *Road to Ibiza* **2.35** The Goldbergs **3.30** Film: *Hugo* (2011) **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **11.00** Gogglebox **1.10** Rude Tube: *Rude Tubes* **2.15** Containment **Film4**  
**11.00** The Man from Colorado (1948) **1.00** Bridge to Terabithia (2007) **3.00** Aliens in the Attic (2009) **4.55** Moonrise Kingdom (2012) **6.45** Grease **2** (1982) **9.00** The Bourne Legacy (2012)

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## FILM CHOICES

### MONDAY

**Rags to Riches: Ultimate Life, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
Jason Stevens is busy running his grandfather's foundation, while also having to fend off lawsuits from his extended family and lament a fleeing lover. When an inherited journal magically sends him back to 1941, it provides an unparalleled opportunity for him to witness the true rags-to-riches story of his late grandfather. Drama, starring Logan Bartholomew and Peter Fonda. (2013)

### TUESDAY

**Truth and Lies, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
Two former best friends and current enemies suspect each other of sending anonymous messages that threaten to expose their secrets. However, when they realise neither are behind it, the teenagers team up to investigate the source. Drama, starring Dina Meyer, Emily Tennant and Keenan Tracey. (2015)



Possession, Thursday, BBC1, 11.30pm

### WEDNESDAY

**Everything or Nothing: The Untold Story of James Bond, ITV, 10.40pm**  
Documentary examining the making of the James Bond films, featuring contributions from cast and crew members of the 26 movies made over the past 50 years, including 007 actors Daniel Craig, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton and Pierce Brosnan. (2012)

### THURSDAY

**Possession, BBC1, 11.30pm**  
Rival academics get embroiled in the hunt for proof that Victorian poets Randolph Henry Ash and Christabel LaMotte were having an affair – but their rivalry is tempered by a seemingly irresistible attraction between them. Drama from playwright Neil LaBute, starring Gwyneth Paltrow. (2002)

### FRIDAY

**Doc Hollywood, ITV, 10.45pm**  
An arrogant doctor on his way to California causes an accident in a rural South Carolina town and is sentenced to community service at the local hospital. Initially desperate to leave, he gradually comes to appreciate a slower pace of life. Comedy, starring Michael J Fox. (1991)

# Looking to make the nation proud once again

The 2016 Olympic Games will live long in the memory, particularly for Team GB's athletes who achieved their highest medal haul for 108 years – even surpassing the extraordinary home Games in London 2012. And now it's time for Britain's Paralympians to do the business in Brazil.

Tonight, host Clare Balding is back, along with The Last Leg's Adam Hills, at the famous Maracanã Stadium in Rio for what promises to be a spectacular ceremony to mark the start of the 15th Paralympic Games.

Expect a Brazilian carnival atmosphere to accompany the athletes' parade, which will be the first chance to catch a glimpse of the Team GB athletes who are hoping to top the 120 medals they won at London 2012.

The team is packed full of reigning Paralympic, world and European champions, and expectations are high – can the athletes build on the 27 golds won by Team GB in Rio a few weeks ago? Tonight, Balding and Hills will be joined by a number of British medal prospects.

Swimmer Ellie Simmonds will be competing at her third Paralympics, having won two gold medals at Beijing in 2008, then adding two more plus a silver and bronze in 2012.

Meanwhile, 23-year-old world record breaking wheelchair racer 'Hurricane' Hannah Cockroft, has been dominant in the T34 class for years and will also be looking to add to her two golds from London.

Johnny Peacock nearly died from meningitis aged five, but was a Paralympic gold medalist at 18. Now the sprinter has his sights firmly set on retaining his 100m title in Rio.

David Weir tried all manner of sports before falling for wheelchair racing.

Now the 'Weirwolf' will be attending his fifth Games, having made his debut in Atlanta in 1996.

He won Britain's only track and field golds in Beijing before his four golds in London.

And finally there's cycling supremo and former swimmer Sarah Storey, Great Britain's most decorated female Paralympian, having won 11 Gold,

eight Silver and three Bronze medals across six Paralympic Games.

But aside from these more well known athletes, Balding and Hills will also be profiling several up and coming stars ready to shine for Team GB in Rio.

Libby Clegg recently broke the world record in the T11 200m at the Anniversary Games last year, and Kadeena Cox will be competing in both the cycling and the athletics this year.

Lee Pearson will be looking to add to his 10-gold medal haul in the equestrian, alongside 67-year-old five-time gold medalist Anne Dunham.

Meanwhile, Gordon Reid – who won the first ever Wimbledon men's wheelchair singles and doubles this year – will be competing in the tennis along with doubles partner Alfie Hewett.

Unfortunately, the build up to these Games has been plagued with problems. However, as with the Olympics, the organisers will hope that once the action does get under way, the athletes will provide the same amount of entertainment and inspiration as they did in 2012.



Paralympics 2016: Opening Ceremony Live, Wednesday, Channel 4, 9pm

# BEST OF THE REST

### MONDAY

**Cold Feet**  
ITV, 9pm

Where would the careers of John Thomson, James Nesbitt, Fay Ripley, Hermione Norris and Robert Bathurst be without Cold Feet? All of them owe the much-loved comedy drama a debt of gratitude because it turned them into major small screen stars. And that's perhaps why they agreed to reassemble for this reunion of their characters, 13 years after the original run came to an end. This run, which is written by the show's creator, Mike Bullen, will reveal what has happened to Adam, who was left to raise his son Matthew alone following the death of his soulmate Rachel, whether Pete and Jenny lived happily ever after, and what became of David and Karen, who had gone their separate ways.

### TUESDAY

**Motherland**  
BBC2, 10pm

The latest comedy pilot from the New on Two season looks at the funny side of being a parent and follows characters navigating the trials and traumas of middle-class motherhood. We meet the Alpha Mums' headed by Amanda (Lucy Punch) who is very much the queen bee – everything in her life

is organised, clean and sparkly. At the other end of the spectrum there is Liz (Diane Morgan) who's totally chaotic and feels the kids should enjoy free expression. Somewhere in the middle is Julia (Anna Maxwell-Martin), who, when she forgets it's the school holidays, realises her organisational skills are nowhere near the level of the Alpha Mums'. Also in the mix is Kevin (Paul Ready Utopia) – a stay-at-home dad, who rather than fighting against that, is embracing it with gusto – to the irritation of the others.

### WEDNESDAY

**The Great British Bake Off**  
BBC1, 8pm

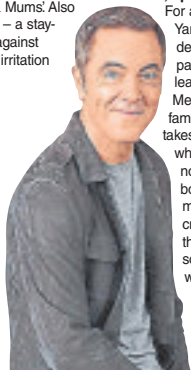
As bread week arrives, the remaining home-bakers must face three tough tasks set by Paul Hollywood. For the signature bake, the contestants make a sweet dough with a twist, and in the technical they must face baking without an oven. Finally, for the showstopper, they are challenged to use three different flours to create a huge centrepiece and impress judges Paul and Mary. Meanwhile, Mel heads to Germany to find out how a baker and a few hundred

dumplings saved his small town from the ravages of 30 years of war.

### THURSDAY

**Inside Scotland Yard with Trevor McDonald**  
ITV, 9pm

For almost 200 years, the name Scotland Yard has been synonymous with detective work, and now in this two-part documentary, Trevor McDonald is learning more about the history of the Metropolitan Police Service's world-famous headquarters. It's a quest that takes in the building's Crime Museum, which includes exhibits (such as nooses, murder weapons and even body parts) from some of the Met's most famous cases. It wasn't just the criminals who were up to no good though, as Trevor takes a look at some early police disciplinary records, which show that in the Met's first six months, nearly half the officers were dismissed – drunkenness was the most common cause, but one early bobby got the boot for milking a cow while on duty.



Cold Feet, Monday, ITV, 9pm

### FRIDAY

**Countrywise: Guide to Britain**  
ITV, 8pm

New series. Ben Fogle and Liz Bonnin travel the length and breadth of Britain to discover the countryside's hidden gems, natural wonders and great escapes. Ben heads out on a tour of the stunning Isles of Scilly with his guide Colin Taylor, the police sergeant in charge of this little part of the world, while Liz Bonnin is on the Dorset coast on to view some of the millions of birds that travel thousands of miles to reach these shores each spring.

### Would I Lie to You?

BBC1, 8.30pm

Rob Brydon presents as regular team captains David Mitchell and Lee Mack are joined by Nadiya Hussain, the winner of last year's The Great British Bake Off who is fresh from her own two-part documentary The Chronicles of Nadiya, as well as comic and actor Michael Smiley, and comedians Bob Mortimer and Diane Morgan. As usual, the participants aim to hoodwink their opponents with absurd facts and plausible lies about themselves in a bid to secure a team victory and the dubious honour of being dubbed the liar of the week.

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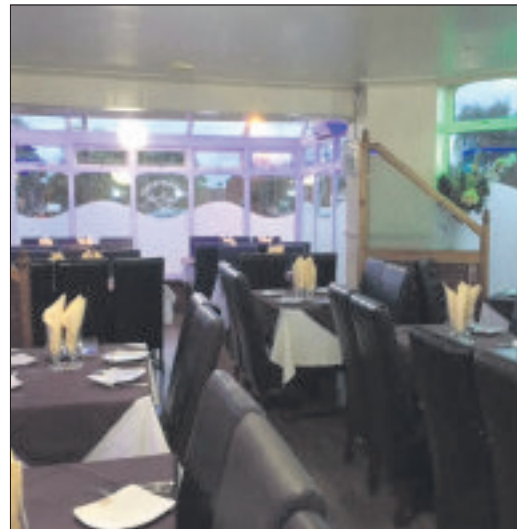
# No question, this is tasty



Sanam Balti claims to be Cannock's first balti house



Owner Akeel presents a cheque for £250 to a Macmillan representative



Plenty of room and ideal for a romantic meal or family dining

**IT'S not often I venture out for dinner on a work night, but on one Wednesday evening, the Sanam Balti just seemed so inviting.**

The restaurant, in Cannock Road, Chadsmoor, professes to be Cannock's first balti house, having opened its doors in 1992.

It has recently branched out into quiz nights, with its inaugural event raising £250

for Macmillan Cancer Support. My daughter and I were instantly welcomed with a warm smile and ushered to our table in the light and well-decorated premises.

It's a large building, but with a great ambience and ideal for a romantic meal or family dining. Large parties can be catered for with a separate room upstairs.

The menu is varied and it was refreshing to see many new dishes. My daughter is vegetarian, but was well provided for. We both regularly eat Indian food so it was refreshing to

## Meal review by Debbie Tavner

see that there was a lot to choose from on the vegetarian menu.

Rarely have I seen in Indian restaurants a children's menu, but here was one at the Sanam, of both English and Indian food, enabling children to enjoy a night out with their families.

Akeel, the owner, was quick to point out that children eat free on a Sunday. The restaurant

isn't licensed to serve alcohol, but diners are free to take in their own drinks.

After poppadums, we tried starters, with a vegetable platter for my daughter, made up of a vegetable samosa, onion bhaji and a mushroom bhaji and an unusual-looking Gurka kebab, taken from the additional menu for myself. Very tasty they both were, too.

I was already feeling slightly full before our mains, my daughter opting for a traditional mushroom korma, while I plumped for a tandoori king prawn and salad. These came with

side dishes of pilau rice and Bombay potatoes – which to my mind were the best potatoes I have tasted in an Indian restaurant and were the perfect accompaniment.

A wide selection of desserts are available should you have space. But we, alas, didn't.

To dine in on a Monday and a Tuesday, poppadums, a main course and sundry from a set menu is just £8.85. A popular Wednesday take-away offer for £9.95.

To book a table at the Sanam, call 01543 462105.

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# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

27  
The Chronicle Thursday, September 1, 2016

## Deceptively large bungalow is on a generous plot

**This immaculately presented and deceptively spacious three-bedroomed detached bungalow in Sandbeds Road, Willenhall, lies on a generous plot.**

It is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £209,995.

Being close to good local schools, amenities and transport links and well placed for Willenhall Gurdwara, the property has gas central heating, double glazing, a detached garage, off-road parking and a generous rear garden. In more detail the property is accessed via a stoned frontage to a wrought iron gate to the side which in turn gives access to the glazed timber entrance door and garage to the side. The entrance hall has oak-effect laminate flooring. The lounge has a cast iron feature fireplace having an inset living flame gas fire with a marble hearth, a glazed square bay window and laminate flooring.

The kitchen/diner has been re-fitted with a range of modern cream gloss wall and base units with complementary worktops and splash backs over, a stainless steel single bowl sink unit with chrome mixer tap over, an integrated double oven with gas hob and chimney extractor over, an integrated dishwasher, patio doors to the conservatory, ceramic tiled flooring and is open plan into the utility area. This has wall and base units with complementary worktops and splash backs over, an integrated washing machine, integrated fridge freezer, larder unit, a door to the rear, ceramic tiled flooring and an archway through to the main kitchen area.

The conservatory has French doors to the rear and ceramic tiled flooring. Bedroom one has built-in wardrobes, a square bay window to the front and laminate flooring.

Bedroom two has a square bay window to the side and laminate flooring. Bedroom three/separate dining room has a feature fired fireplace housing a living flame gas fire with a marble hearth and back panel, a window to the side and laminate flooring. The bathroom suite includes a low level WC, panelled bath with chrome shower mixer tap, a vanity wash hand basin with chrome mixer tap, quadrant shower cubicle with a 'Redring' electric shower, half height tiling and laminate flooring.

WILLENHALL £209,995



### TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: L&S Prestige Estates

TEL: 01902 606595

EMAIL: [info@prestige-estatesuk.com](mailto:info@prestige-estatesuk.com)

### KEY FEATURES

Immaculate

Deceptively spacious

3 bedrooms

Conservatory

No chain



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If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.





## Three-bed house is superbly appointed

**WALSALL**  
**£114,950**

Superbly appointed, this three-bedroomed town house in Davy Road, Beechdale Estate, Walsall comes with a superb dining kitchen.

It is for sale through Skitts at £114,950 with no chain.

With gas central heating and double glazing it is a much improved mid-town house-style property offering accommodation thought ideal for first time buyers and investors alike. It has a modern style re-fitted kitchen diner, bathroom suite, a lounge with a bay window and stairs leading to the first floor, a re-fitted kitchen/ diner with a matching range of modern style fitted high gloss wall and base cupboard units with roll top work surfaces over, an integrated electric oven with inset four ring gas hob and extractor fan over, integrated refrigerator and freezer, a side entry, three bedrooms and re-fitted bathroom. Outside are front and rear gardens with a patio.

Contact Skitts on 01922 478104 or visit the website [www.skitts.net](http://www.skitts.net)



## Four-bedroom detached is in a nice position

**WALSALL**  
**£275,000**

<<<

This modern four-bed detached house in Bodmin Rise, Park Hall, Walsall occupies a pleasant position.

Having undergone considerable refurbishment, it is now for sale through Fraser Wood at £275,000.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has a porch, reception hall, a well equipped kitchen with a hob and oven, a guest WC, spacious rear lounge, four good sized bedrooms, a re-fitted bathroom, foregarden, garage and a rear garden with views over the canal side.

The property is conveniently situated for all amenities including public transport services to neighbouring areas, local shopping facilities at Gilly Village and a good range of schools, including Park Hall Infant and Junior School. Junction 7 of the M6 Motorway is within approximately four km distance, with access to the West Midlands and beyond.

Contact Fraser Wood on 01922 707517 or visit the site [www.fraser-wood.co.uk](http://www.fraser-wood.co.uk)



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3 Church View, Rugeley	10.00am	10.00am
399 Cannock Road, Hednesford	10.40am	10.40am
204 Cannock Road, Chads Moor	11.00am	11.00am
1 Hollyoak Way, Cannock	11.30am	11.30am
181 Wimblebury Road, Heath Hayes	12.00pm	12.00pm
29 Red Lion Crescent, Norton Canes	12.30pm	12.30pm
7 Dundalk Lane, Cheslyn Hay	1.00pm	1.00pm
39 Tower View Road, Great Wyrley	1.30pm	1.30pm
20 Orchard Road, Willenhall	2.15pm	2.15pm
43 Market Street, Hednesford	By prior appointment	
Land Adj. 89 Wood Lane, Hednesford	STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	
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**LOT 1**

**204 CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5BZ**  
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ End terraced house
- ◆ Brick, render and slate construction
- ◆ Requiring improvement
- ◆ Two Bedrooms
- ◆ Conveniently located for facilities at Chads Moor town centre
- ◆ Adjacent to public car park
- ◆ Gas fired central heating (not tested)
- ◆ EPC rating D (56)

**GUIDE PRICE £47,500**

**LOT 2**

**181 WIMBLEBURY ROAD, HEATH HAYES WS12 2EW**  
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Larger than average end terraced house
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Brick, render and slate construction
- ◆ Open views to front
- ◆ Requiring general improvement
- ◆ Partial gas fired central heating (not tested)
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating E (44)

**GUIDE PRICE £70,000+**

**LOT 3**

**LAND ADJ 89 WOOD LANE, HEDNESFORD.**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Good sized parcel of Freehold land
- ◆ Situated in an exceptionally popular residential area
- ◆ Convenient for amenities at Hednesford town centre
- ◆ Suitable for the erection of one detached dwelling house (Subject to Planning Permission)

**GUIDE PRICE £85,000+**

**LOT 4**

**3 CHURCH VIEW, RUGELEY, WS15 1DZ**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Mid terraced house
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Gas central heating (not tested)
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (68)

**GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £80,000**

**LOT 5**

**20 ORCHARD ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV13 2EP**  
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Factory/warehouse premises
- ◆ Possibly suitable for residential/ commercial redevelopment (subject to planning permission)
- ◆ Predominantly residential area
- ◆ Convenient for Willenhall town centre

**GUIDE PRICE £35,000+**

**LOT 6**

**29 RED LION CRESCENT, NORTON CANES, WS11 9QS**  
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ In popular residential area
- ◆ In need of some improvement
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ Partial solid fuel central heating (not tested)
- ◆ Some double glazing
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

**GUIDE PRICE £50,000+**

**LOT 7**

**FIELD NO: 220, LAND TO WEST OF HORSEBROOK LANE, BREWOOD, ST19 9EF**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Pasture land
- ◆ Extending to approx 2.4 acres (0.97Ha) or thereabouts
- ◆ Road frontage and gated access to Horsebrook Lane
- ◆ Mains water connected (Not tested)

**GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £50,000**

**LOT 8**

**39 TOWER VIEW ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY, WS6 6HF**  
LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Ground floor flat
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Recently recarpeted and redecorated
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

**GUIDE PRICE £50,000-£70,000**

**LOT 9**

**399 CANNOCK ROAD, HEDNESFORD, WS12 4AE**  
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Inner terraced house
- ◆ Brick and tile construction
- ◆ Requiring comprehensive refurbishment and modernisation
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

**GUIDE PRICE £45,000+**

**LOT 10**

**7 DUNDALK LANE, CHESLYN HAY, WS6 7BB**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached bungalow
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Part double glazing
- ◆ Part electric heating
- ◆ Detached garage
- ◆ In need of improvement
- ◆ EPC rating 10 (G)

**GUIDE PRICE £100,000**

**LOT 11**

**1 HOLLYOAK WAY, CANNOCK, WS11 1DF**

LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Well equipped ground floor apartment
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Constructed 2002
- ◆ Located in much sought after cul-de-sac
- ◆ Conveniently located for Cannock Town Centre
- ◆ EPC rating D (61)

**GUIDE PRICE £90,000+**

**LOT 12**

**43 & 43B BASEMENT & YARD, MARKET STREET, HEDNESFORD, WS12 1AY**  
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- ◆ Substantial building in town centre location
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- ◆ No. 43b self contained first floor flat
- ◆ Rear basement together with rear yard
- ◆ No 43 - EPC rating (E) 103
- ◆ No 43b - EPC rating (F) 34

**GUIDE PRICE £90,000+**



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Well Presented & Spacious First Floor Flat. UPVC Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating briefly comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with appliances, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower

**£525 pcm**

**Squires Grove Willenhall**



Second Floor Apartment in a sought after location. UPVC Double Glazing & Electric Heating briefly comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, En suite Shower Room to master,

**£525 pcm**

**Stowheath Lane Wolverhampton**



Two Bedroom Mid Terrace With Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. Comprising Of: Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom, Two Bedrooms And Enclosed Rear Garden.

OFFERS AROUND: **£85,000**

### PUBLIC NOTICE



**Coltham Road**  
50 Coltham Road, WV12 5GF. We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £92,500 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before exchange of contracts takes place. The Energy Performance Certificate Rating is D.

**Loxdale Sidings Bilston**



one bedroom freehold coach house. The property has no upward chain and briefly comprises: reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom and integral garage.

OFFERS AROUND: **£99,950**

**Tyler Road Willenhall**



Three/Four Bedroom Family Home In Willenhall Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Downstairs Bedroom/Reception With Ensuite Wet Room, Three Bedrooms And Family Bathroom.

OFFERS AROUND: **£105,000**

**New Road Willenhall**

**REDUCED**



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OFFERS AROUND: **£124,995**

**Lord Street Walsall**

**NEW**



Three Bedroom Mid Terrace, Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Downstairs W.C., Three Bedrooms And Family Bathroom. Large Driveway And Approx 110ft Rear Garden.

Viewing: **£130,000**

**Martin Drive Willenhall**



3 bedroom semi detached house, modern kitchen, dining room, lounge/diner, conservatory, 3 double bedrooms and good size bathroom, driveway and good size rear garden.

OFFERS AROUND: **£145,000**

**Woodcote Road Wolverhampton**



4 Bedroom modern detached house, entrance hallway, downstairs wc, lounge, dining room, modern breakfast kitchen with integral appliances, conservatory, modern bathroom, driveway.

OFFERS AROUND: **£300,000**

**Steven Drive Bilston**

**REDUCED**



• 1 Bedroom property  
• Lounge  
• Breakfast kitchen  
• Lounge  
OFFERS AROUND: **£76,000**

**Pace Crescent Bilston**

**REDUCED**



• 3 Bedroom end terrace house  
• Lounge/diner  
• Kitchen  
• Bathroom  
OFFERS AROUND: **£90,000**

**Carlton Avenue Bilston**



• 3 Bedroom detached house  
• Non upward chain  
• Entrance porch and hallway  
• Lounge/diner  
OFFERS AROUND: **£175,000**

**Jenkins Close Bilston**



• 3 Bedroom duplex apartment  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen  
• Bathroom  
OFFERS AROUND: **£64,950**

**Bay Avenue Bilston**



• 5 Bedroom modern detached family house  
• Kitchen  
• Lounge  
• Dining room  
OFFERS AROUND: **£250,000**

**Laburnum Road Wolverhampton**

**NEW**



• 3 Bedroom semi detached house  
• Lounge/diner  
• Kitchen  
• Bathroom  
OFFERS AROUND: **£100,000**

**Lavender Grove Bilston**

**NEW**



• 3 Bedroom semi detached house  
• Lounge  
• Modern breakfast kitchen  
• Conservatory  
OFFERS AROUND: **£117,000**

**St Chads Road Bilston**



• 2 Bedroom semi detached house  
• No Upward Chain  
• Entrance porch and hallway  
• Lounge  
OFFERS AROUND: **£105,000**

**Best Road Bilston**

**NEW**



• 3 Bedroom semi detached house  
• Lounge  
• Breakfast kitchen  
• Bathroom  
OFFERS AROUND: **£120,000**

**Kendrick Place Bilston**

**NEW**



• Three Bedroom Family Home  
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• Lounge With Dining Area  
• EPC - TBA, Fitted Kitchen  
OFFERS AROUND: **£119,950**



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## Very well-presented retirement flat

**STREETLY**  
**£89,950**

An exceptionally well presented one-bedroomed retirement flat, 11 Jerome Court, Langham Green, Streetly, is pleasantly located on the ground floor with easy access to the communal laundry and lounge facilities.

For the over 55s, it is for sale through Fraser Wood at £89,950. With delightful communal gardens it has a communal porch and hallway with a security phone entry system, flat entrance hall with security entry phone system and cloaks storage, an attractive lounge with a feature fireplace and views of communal grounds, a part tiled kitchen with an integrated electric hob and oven and a superbly appointed, fully tiled bathroom and a double bedroom with a built-in wardrobe.

Contact Fraser Wood on 01922 627686 or visit the site [www.fraser-wood.co.uk](http://www.fraser-wood.co.uk)



## Apartment is an ideal investment purchase

**WALSALL**  
**£64,995**

<<<

Currently let out at £425 pcm until January 2017, this one-double bedroomed apartment in Little Station Street, Walsall, is an ideal buy for an investor.

Positioned in the heart of town, it is for sale through Redstones at £64,995.

Having double glazing includes, the property has a reception hall, a lounge, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom and a double bedroom. The apartment has enough space for anyone downsizing or just starting out, and also would make an ideal investment for landlord.

The reception hall has wood-effect laminate flooring, loft access, an entry phone and airing cupboard. The lounge has a coved ceiling, dado rail and laminated wood floor covering.

Contact Redstones on 01922 235350 or visit [www.redstones.co.uk](http://www.redstones.co.uk)

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# 123 Lots to include:

# at Aston Villa Football Ground



View: 3 Sept 10:30, 5 Sept 11:15, 7 Sept 14:45

### 46 Pages Lane, Great Barr

A Semi Detached Property with Porch, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, WC, Garden, Driveway Parking, Side Garage/Store, Partial Double Glazing & Central Heating.

**Guide: £79,000 - £84,000**



View: 3 Sept 11:15, 5 Sept 12:00, 7 Sept 14:00

### 10 Delves Crescent, Walsall

A Semi Detached Property with Porch, Lobby, Reception Room, Kitchen, Landing, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC with Shower, Gardens, Side Garage, Driveway Parking, part UPVC Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating.

**Guide: £50,000 plus**



View: 3 Sept 12:15, 5 Sept 13:00, 7 Sept 13:00

### Flat 60a Mill Road, Walsall

A First Floor Apartment, Situated in a Two Storey Block with Hall, Reception Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room/WC, Communal Gardens, Allocated Garage, Partial Double Glazing and Gas Fired Central Heating.

**Guide: £19,000 - £24,000**



View: 2 Sept 13:45, 5 Sept 13:45, 7 Sept 12:00

### 85 Shaw Road, Coseley

3 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £49,000 - £54,000**



View: 2 Sept 13:00, 5 Sept 13:00, 7 Sept 12:45

### 3 Harvington Road, Coseley

3 Bed Detached House

**Guide: £79,000 - £84,000**



View: 3 Sept 14:45, 5 Sept 16:15, 7 Sept 9:45

### 23 Chetwyn Rd, Wolverhampton

3 Bed Semi Detached House which may be Suitable for Conversion to Flats/HMO\*

**Guide: £50,000 plus**



View: 2 Sept 12:15, 5 Sept 12:15, 7 Sept 13:30

### 10 Ivyhouse Lane, Bilston

2 Bed Detached House with Development Potential\*

**Guide: £29,000 - £34,000**



View: 2 Sept 15:15, 5 Sept 15:15, 7 Sept 10:30

### 45 South Green, Penn

3 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £49,000 - £54,000**



View: 2 Sept 15:45, 5 Sept 15:45, 7 Sept 10:00

### 37 Claverley Drive, Penn

3 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £59,000 - £64,000**



View: 2 Sept 14:30, 5 Sept 14:30, 7 Sept 11:15

### 51 Bevan Avenue, Parkfields

2 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £29,000 - £34,000**



View: 3 Sept 13:15, 5 Sept 14:00, 7 Sept 12:00

### 5 Tryon Place, Bilston

2 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £19,000 - £24,000**



View: 3 Sept 14:00, 5 Sept 14:45, 7 Sept 11:15

### 9 Bailey Road, Bilston

3 Bed Semi Detached House

**Guide: £29,000 - £34,000**



Viewings: The site is open for viewings

### Land R/O 10 Broad St, Bilston

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**Guide: £15,000 - £20,000**

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## New Invention

### HILTON ROAD NEW INVENTION



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### SANDBEDS RD, WILLENHALL



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## Family home is well presented and spacious

MOSSLEY

£105,000

Well presented and deceptively spacious, this three-bedroom mid town house in Abbey Square, Mossley, is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £105,000.

Overlooking green space to the fore, it has a hall, lounge and kitchen/diner. To the first floor there are three bedrooms and a modern family bathroom. To the outside there is off road parking to the fore along with an alternative side access to the property and an enclosed private rear garden.

Contact L&S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 or visit [www.prestige-estatesuk.com](http://www.prestige-estatesuk.com)



## Well-planned spacious home with potential is a must-see

WALSALL

£399,995

<<<

This four-bedroom detached house in Springvale Avenue, Walsall, must be viewed.

On sale with Edwards Moore, its asking price is £399,995.

The agents say viewing is essential to appreciate its well-planned home with gas central heating and double glazing.

The property has been extended and modernised but still has potential for more.

It includes porch reception, guest W/C, living room, dining/sitting room, conservatory, large breakfast kitchen with appliances, utility, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, rear garden, off-street parking and double garage.

Contact Edwards Moore on 01922 615222 or [www.edwardsmoore.co.uk](http://www.edwardsmoore.co.uk)



## Cash only offers for two-bed semi-detached home

A semi detached property is on the market with cash offers only invited.

The property, in Oak Crescent, Walsall, is on the market with Marrion & Co for offers in the region of £92,950.

It benefits from gas central heating, two bedrooms and a large bathroom.

WALSALL

£92,950

Outside there is a driveway and rear garden. It has no onwads chain.

A spokesman for the agents, said: "A deceptively spacious, well

presented semi detached house." The property has a gated driveway, lawn area and pathway leading to the pedestrian gated side access to the rear garden.

Contact the Bloxwich office of Marrion & Co on 01922 404446 or visit [www.marrion.co.uk](http://www.marrion.co.uk) if you wish to arrange a viewing appointment for this property.

# K.Stuart Swash

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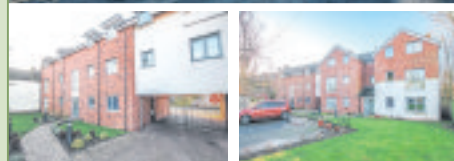




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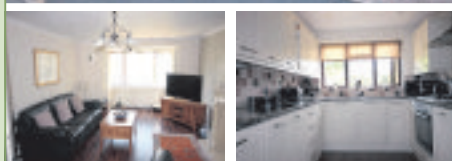
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- Built in Wardrobes
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage

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Harrison Street, Bloxwich

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- Refitted Bathroom

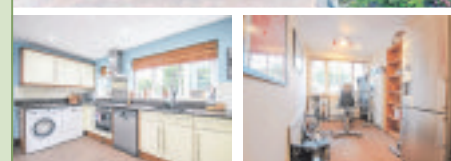
Offers in the Region Of £160,000



Jesson Close, Walsall

- NO CHAIN
- SECURE GATED DEVELOPMENT
- DELIGHTFUL COMMUNAL GROUNDS
- SHARE OF THE FREEHOLD
- ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE
- GARAGE

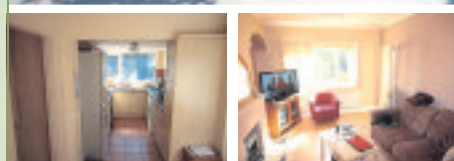
£135,000



Formby Way, Turnberry

- Much Improved Detached Family Home
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- Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite Shower to Master
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£230,000



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Mulberry Place, Bloxwich

- NEW BUILD
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- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Front and Rear Gardens

£138,000



Epping Close, Leamore

- Three Bedrooms
- Recently Fitted Contemporary Bathroom
- Refitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Off Road Parking
- Attractive and Private Low Maintenance Rear Garden
- Cul-De-Sac Location

£130,000



Harrison Street, Bloxwich

- Extended Semi-Detached
- Two Double Bedrooms
- First Floor Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extended Kitchen/Diner
- Ground Floor WC

£120,000



Ingram Road, Bloxwich

- No Chain
- Three Generous Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£110,000



Hollemeadow Avenue, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C.
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

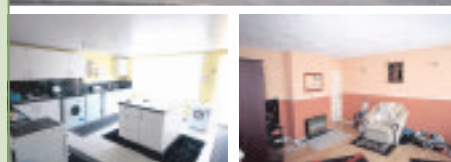
£100,000



West Street, Leamore

- Off Road Parking
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Porch
- Lounge
- Ground Floor WC
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom with Shower Cubicle
- Well Presented Throughout

£99,950



Kirkstall Crescent, Mossley

- THREE BEDROOM MID TERRACE
- Entrance Porch
- Lounge
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- Well Presented Throughout

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- Garage
- Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Ground Floor WC
- Three Generous Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Double Shower

£220,000



Waters Keep, Walsall

- Light and Airy Lounge
- Spacious Kitchen/Diner
- Downstairs W.C
- Rear French Doors
- Three Spacious Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom

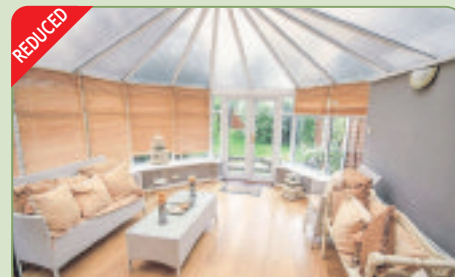
From £145,995



The Oaks, Bloxwich

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Deceptively Spacious
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Entrance Porch/Lounge
- Dining Room/Fitted Kitchen
- Utility/W.C
- Master En-Suite Shower Room
- Family Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Garage

Offers in Excess of £210,000



Wallington Heath, Bloxwich

- Semi-Detached
- Ornate Spiral Staircase
- Fitted Galley Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Luxurious Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing
- Highly Desirable Location
- No Chain

£165,000



Mackay Road, Little Bloxwich

- No Chain
- Well Regarded Location
- Porch
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Generous Bedrooms
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Some Modernisation Required
- Sought After Location
- Viewing Essential

£105,000



Waters Keep, Walsall

- Light and Airy Lounge
- Spacious Kitchen / Diner
- Downstairs W.C
- Rear French Doors
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Useful Storage Space
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From £115,995



Park Road, Bloxwich

- Block Built in 2008
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- Private Secure Parking
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- Sought After Location
- Great School Catchment Area
- Viewing Essential

£102,500



Rochester Croft, Reedswood

- No Chain
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking
- Private Rear Garden
- Set in the Corner of a Cul-de-Sac

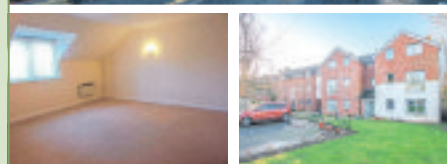
Offers in Excess of £115,000



Glatonbury Crescent, Mossley

- NO CHAIN!
- Mid-terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Driveway
- Generous Rear Garden
- Spacious Lounge With Bay Window
- Fitted Kitchen
- First Floor Bathroom
- Viewing Essential

£85,000



Church Place, Bloxwich

- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Kitchen & Living Area
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- White Bathroom Suite
- Ample Storage
- Allocated Parking
- Secure Intercom Entrance
- Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £80,000



Manorhouse Close, Walsall

- Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£105,000



Glastonbury Crescent, Mossley

- Three Bedroom Terraced Property
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge with Bay Window
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Generous Bedrooms
- Side Passage
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£94,950



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# Hot hatch has plenty of grunt to get going

By Matt Joy

**I rather like hot hatches. There's something brilliant about a nippy, sharp-handling car that comes in a handy-sized package.**

That's exactly how I'd describe the Seat Ibiza Cupra. It's powered by a 1.8-litre turbocharged petrol engine which produces just shy of 190bhp.

Though that might not sound impressive straight away, the torque figure certainly is - 320Nm. This is the most useful part of the car, and it means that the little Cupra has more than enough grunt to handle almost every situation.

I was handed a car with under 200 miles on the clock, which means it's in that irritating running-in period. You've got to keep the revs and the speed in check, and this can be close to infuriating in a hot hatch.

That said, with the amount of torque mentioned, it's an easy car in which to travel along briskly without really needing to stress the engine. This also makes it immensely easy to drive on the motorway, and thanks to a sixth gear it's quiet, too.

## System

The interior of the car is solid, and features a large infotainment screen that incorporates Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. It's a system that works really well, and the sound it emits isn't half bad either.

The seats aren't too heavily bolstered, as is on-trend with hot hatches of late, but that isn't such a bad thing - they still do the job just fine.

Everything feels as though it's had a good amount of thought lavished upon it, so it's worth paying to appreciate what's on offer.

So what are the initial impressions of the Cupra? Well, it's a car that does anything but become unstuck around the bends.

Even keeping the revs low, you can easily carry speed through the twisty stuff thanks to handling that is confidence inspiring at all times. There's great weight to the steering, and this can be increased by pressing the Sport button on the dash.

It also sounds like a proper hatch. We're quite sure it features some piped-in noise, but from the outside it certainly gives off a sporty exhaust note. Just what a hot hatch needs, then.

On a recent trip to Silverstone it coped just fine with motorway miles, riding well on some less-than-perfect surfaces. I wasn't able to get it out on to the track (and I think the factory fresh gearbox will thank me for that) but I've got an inkling that it would be a hoot on the circuit. One day soon, perhaps.

I'm looking forward to seeing how the Cupra loosens up over time.

We'll be pitting it against some rivals shortly, and I'm quite sure it'll hold its own.

## TESTED

**Model:** Seat Ibiza Cupra, £18,900

**Engine:** 1.8-litre turbocharged petrol. Power: 189bhp

**Max speed:** 146mph

**0-62mph:** 6.9 seconds

**Emissions:** 145g/km

**MPG:** 45.6mpg (combined)



# Bold new look for Kia's SUV Sorento

By James Fosssdyke

**Kia's flagship SUV has a bold new look, but can it compete with its established (and very popular) 4x4 rivals?**

The immediately obvious change is the curvy new body, but that's not the only alteration Kia has made to its flagship SUV. Under the skin, there's an all-new platform with a stronger structure, an upgraded engine range, improved steering and revised suspension.

Inside, the cabin has a more premium feel and there's some pretty impressive equipment hiding in there too.

The trade-off for all these improvements, though, is a slight price increase – around 5 per cent to be exact. So has the Sorento lost its key selling point, or is it merely an even more capable alternative to the seven-seat SUV establishment?

As well as being longer, wider and lower than its predecessor, the new Sorento looks far beefier than the old car, not to mention more curvaceous. The bluff front end is adorned with a rather turgid version of the tiger-nose grille that comes across so aggressively on the Cee'd, and the rounded lights give a distinctly un-Kia-like doe-eyed look.

Nevertheless, it's actually quite an attractive-looking beast, albeit in a cuddly kind of way. It certainly won't look out of place in the school car park sitting alongside the XC90s, Outlanders and Q5s of this world.

Because the new Sorento is bigger than its forebear, interior space has greatly improved. In the 'standard' five-seat configuration, the 605-litre boot will be more than enough for a family's holiday luggage or ferrying kids' sports kit to and from practice sessions.

Pop the two rear seats up to create a seven-seater, though, and that space is compressed to 142 litres, which sounds like more than it is. You'd struggle to fit a small suitcase in there.

The upside of that is that you get seven seats capable of carrying adults, albeit too cramped to be considered comfortable. Kids, however, will likely find they have plenty of room.

## Refined

Like most SUVs of this size, the Sorento hardly handles like a sports car, but it's refined, comfortable and generally a very pleasant steer. Vigorous cornering results in quite a lot of body roll, but it's no worse than, say, a Mitsubishi Outlander. The advantage of that roll, however, is a smooth ride – the undulations are soaked up with minimum fuss.

The 2.2-litre engine feels chunky enough to ensure progress is adequate, but it never feels anything like fast. More importantly, though, it's refined. Cruising along the motorway at a steady 70 won't necessitate an increase in stereo volume or raised voices, and while there's a mild grumble when you're setting off, it isn't especially intrusive.

Four-wheel drive is standard across the range, so traversing muddy fields won't be a problem, but Kia is well aware that the Sorento is more likely to be seen on the school run than a green lane, so a lack of ground clearance means the off-road performance is acceptable, rather than impressive.

It's efficient, though, returning 46.3mpg on the combined cycle and 41mpg on test. The 161g/km carbon dioxide emissions aren't bad either, and they keep tax relatively low for both private and business customers.

Value has traditionally been one of Kia's big selling points, and the Sorento's £28,795 starting price compares favourably with the likes of the less spacious Land Rover Discovery Sport. Towards the top of the range, though, the Kia seems to lose its price advantage. The upper-mid-range '3' model we tested came in at almost £36,000, while top-spec '4' variants get an asking price of almost £41,000. That's only £5,000 cheaper than the cheapest version of the larger and more prestigious Land Rover Discovery.

That said, the Kia does feel almost as premium as the ageing Discovery. The cabin plastics are exemplary, and the build quality seems to be pretty good too. There's even plenty of equipment, with our test car getting leather seats, satellite navigation, two-zone air conditioning, 18-inch alloys, heated seats front and rear, a heated steering wheel...

## TESTED

**Model:** Kia Sorento

**Engine:** 2.2-litre turbodiesel producing 197bhp and 311lb/ft of torque

**Transmission:** Six-speed manual with part-time four-wheel drive

**Performance:** 0-62mph 9secs, 124mph top speed

**Economy:** 46.3mpg (claimed)

**Emissions:** 161g/km (claimed)



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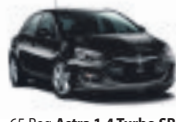
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RISER RECLINER CHAIR Petite dual motor riser recliner. Arizona Sand. Teak knuckles. As new. £450.00 ono 01922 410438

## in your garden

A LANDSCAPING & GARDEN SERVICE Fencing supplied & fitted. Jungles cleared & restored. Garden tidy-ups. New lawns laid. Paving, Hedge Cutting, regular Garden Maintenance. Free estimates. **01902 683607 or 07939 634708**

A BARGAIN A lush green lawn turf, cut fresh in easy to lay rolls £1.50 per roll. Prompt deliveries daily. Trent Valley Turf: 01902 738217.

AT C B SHEDS & FENCING We supply/fit. Free quotes. Supply sleepers & decking 01922 720270.

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED, only £1.76 inc. VAT. Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

## items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 459222.

GAS FIRE Black marble with white wood surround. £400. Shed £40. Buyers to dismantle & collect both. West Brom: 07756 578028.

## items wanted

ALL GOLD 9CT £300 PER OUNCE CASH PAID TODAY A GENUINE LADY BUYER All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins • WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY • Diamonds and Gold • Ores • Jocks • Hairings • ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING **01922 495066 or 07971 783206**

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED FOR CASH three piece suites, up to £100 paid Call 01785 815925/07947 627142.

## kitchens & bathrooms

STEEL KALDEWEI BATH With taps, pine fascia, 1700mm l x 750mm w. Vitra toilet with built in Sissamp Cistern 500mm l x 360mm w x 400mm h. Roca sink, taps, pine fascia, with drawers, 560mm w x 470mm d. £700 lot or could separate. Can e-mail photos. **01543 303089**.

## pc's, laptops & accessories

## CLIENT COMPUTERS

Certified technician & Microsoft partner. Repair & maintain laptops and PCs. In West Midlands. Virus removal, broken screens, wifi. Windows problems etc. Home visits or bring to me. Long established. Laptops available. **0121 556 9481**

## specialists at your service

## aerials

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS £90  
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE  
Work Guaranteed  
**01902 858191**  
**01384 429166**  
**01543 439095**  
**01922 716029**  
**07833 738857**

A1 RAPID AERIALS Plasma fitting. Sky repairs, same day service. Free call out, 3 yr g'tee, oap discounts 07960 173589 or 0800 633 5899.

## alarms/security

## PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
**Call: 0121 601 9791**

## blinds

MADE-TO-MEASURE  
BLINDS SALE  
UP TO  
**50% OFF\***

MEASURING & FITTING INCLUDED

BLINDS | CURTAINS | SHUTTERS | CARPETS

TO BOOK A FREE HOME APPOINTMENT WITH  
YOUR LOCAL ADVISOR CALL **0800 111 4919**  
OR VISIT [hillarys.co.uk](http://hillarys.co.uk)

HILLARYS

\*Ts & Cs apply

## appliance repairs

A SAME DAY REPAIR • Cookers  
Autos Fridges Vacuums and Micros.  
Call 07900 578897 / 07801 746853.

## bathrooms

JR Bathrooms & Wetrooms  
Over 20 years  
experience in bathroom  
& kitchen installations.  
TILING/PLASTERING/  
FREE QUOTES  
**07392 379741 or 01543 529648**

## building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS  
Over 35 years experience in the industry  
All aspects of building work including:  
Extensions, loft conversions, roofing,  
driveways & landscaping.  
Discounts offered.  
**01902 579592 / 07837 994465**

P.FENLON BUILDERS All aspects of building. Block paving, plastering, brickwork etc. 01902 445315 / 07730 286187.

## building supplies

RECLAIMED BRICKS, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, York Stone, Cawarden 01889 574066. [sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk](mailto:sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk)

## driveways & patios

**PAVERITE**  
• Leaders in block paving, slabbing, drives and patios.  
• All kinds of paving undertaken.  
• We also specialise in fencing, walls, concrete print and re-sealings.  
• No hidden extras and we do not cut corners.  
Call now for your  
FREE QUOTE on: **07398 440513**

**RPD DRIVEWAYS**  
✓ Driveways ✓ Patios ✓ Paths  
✓ Concrete Imprint Specialist  
✓ Block Paving Tarmacadam  
✓ Wash off and Reseal  
✓ Artificial Lawn and Turf  
Call Now for your FREE QUOTE!  
Office: **01543 327122** or **07527 489872**

## gardening services

**J&B Tree Care, Landscaping & Jetwashing Services**  
• Trees, shrubs and hedges planted.  
• Fencing supplied and erected  
• Turf supplied and laid  
• Stumps treated or removed  
• Hedges and shrubs tidied  
• All pesticide and fungicide work undertaken.  
• Jetwashing of your driveways, walls and brickwork, paths and patios.  
**FULLY INSURED and safety conscious!**  
For a free fixed quote call:  
**01922 449268 or 07786 166856**

## electrical services

ALL ELECTRICAL work from a switch to a rewire. Insured, free quote 01902 575570 / 07958 627434.  
ALL HOME ELECTRICS NAPIT registered. Fully insured. For a free quote call 07583 320318.  
MB ELECTRIC.CO.UK Home wiring specialist. NICEIC. High quality local service. Free phone: 0800 211 8398 / 07959 505905

**Classified Ads**  
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

**PORTWAY FENCING**

## IT WORKS FOR ME

"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representative and I would recommend them to anyone!"

Michael - Portway Fencing.

FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL  
**01902 319 191**

Brought to you by Express & Star

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
SPECIAL OFFER  
10 days of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards £695  
HEAVY DUTY PANELS SUPPLIED AND FITTED  
**0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656**  
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 8am - 12noon  
83 Portway Rd, W.brom  
**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**  
[www.portwayfencing.co.uk](http://www.portwayfencing.co.uk)

## fitted bedrooms

AFFORDABLE BESPOKE FITTED Sliding Wardrobes. 07813 675526 [www.interiorsbyrobertstokes.com](http://www.interiorsbyrobertstokes.com)

## gas fitting

**GAS SERVICES**  
• Boilers  
• Cookers  
• Fires  
• Gas Checks  
• Landlord Certificates  
• Gas Leaks Traced  
Fitted, Serviced and Repaired  
Same Day Service  
Free Quotes  
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs  
Call: **01902 366855/ 07761 973975**

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

## gates

ALL METAL GATES, RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.  
DARLSTON FABS 30 years exp in supplying/fitting gates and railings. Free quotes: 07497 667752.

## guttering

**PROPERTY SOLUTIONS**  
A1 GUTTERING  
cleaned, repaired, replaced, fascia/soffits, UPVC washdowns, all roofing/repainting work. Free quotes. 8am-6pm  
**01902 722447**

## handyman services

DAVIES INSTALLATIONS Building work, plumbing, decking, supply & fit kitchens and bathrooms. Call: 07793 747829 / 01543 300444.



**DAVIES INSTALLATIONS** Building work, plumbing, decking, supply & fit kitchens and bathrooms. Call: 07793 748229 / 01543 300444.

## house clearances

## A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE

Full, part and single rubbish removed.

Garage and sheds cleared. Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.

01922 492007

**Absolute BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken.

**HARVEYS HOUSE CLEARANCES** Quick, discreet and professional. 07939 421862 / 01902 410433

**LOCAL MAN WITH VAN** Removals, collections, deliveries, also single items. Best prices. 07504 298264.

## kitchen fitters

**THE KITCHEN FITTER** Over 20 years experience. Call 07881 654757 or 01543 373233.

## painters / decorators

**ADMJ Decorating**, City and Guilds. No Job Too Small. OAP Discounts 07855 957935 - 01902 630028.

**C I PAINTING & DECORATING** Over 30 yrs experience. City & Guilds approved. Free Quotes. 07890 879 892 / 01902 650716.

**C&D DECORATING** City & Guilds / Wallpapering, Tiling and Flooring. Free quotes, call 07973 262688.

**MFR DECORATORS**, Internal/external. No job too small. Sensible prices. Free quotes. 07837 826372.

## plans prepared

**ADAM DESIGN**, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620207 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

**BUILDING PLANS**: Prepared/submitted. K J Bradley 01902 373248 / 07785 165767 - www.plans4u.co.uk

## plastering

**MINT PLASTERING** For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms in materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200 30 years experience.

Free quotes. All work guaranteed. 01922 606503 / 07519 694516

**M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES**, Home/Garden Improvements. Mark or Sara: 07741 770897

## plumbing &amp; heating

**Angels** The largest local suppliers in the Midlands. Call: 01902 335544

**A RELIABLE PLUMBER** No job too small. No call out fee. Call: 07713 149278 / 01902 330351.

**PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN** No job too small or large. Call Will for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

## removals

**A & M CHEAP REMOVALS** Local Careful Firm Full or Part loads

Call Don: 07749 941319

## KT REMOVALS

12 years experience. SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS. LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED. Free Quotes - Call Ric on:

07771 727119

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 9999 or 07815 043724

**A2B REMOVALS** Cheap and reliable removal service. Insured. 07817 842980 or 01902 744829.

**CALL DEAN NOW**: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN**. Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

**DJ REMOVALS** or one item. Affordable rates. Reliable. Call: 01902 62946 or 07912 980177.

**FURNITURE REMOVALS** We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Call Keith on 07867 862227.

**MAN AND VAN** Local and distance work. Fully insured. Mon - Sun. Free Quotes call: 07720 206339

**Arrow Roofing & Guttering** Pitched roofing & lead work. Flat roofing, rubber & felt. All repointing. Free quotes. 01902 820996

**CLIFF NICHOLLS** Roofing & Scaffolding Rubber Roofing All Roofing and Scaffolding Work carried out

35 years experience FreePhone (0800) 220 - 729

**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449

## skip hire

**QUICKA SKIPS** Mini, Midi, 6 Yard with doors and Builders. 7 days - Prompt Service

01902 404800 / 07983 580884 www.quickaskips.co.uk

**Waste management** Recycling services

01902 459667 0121 558 2120 01543 500 599

**WOLVERHAMPTON SKIP HIRE** MINI, MIDI & BUILDERS SKIPS WITH DOORS

Established 26 years

Call: 01902 722876

**A absolute affordable skip RUSSELL SKIPS** Mini, midi skips

Prompt delivery / collection (0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

**GOLDSHILL SKIPS** Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices: 0121 557 3346

**ClassifiedAds** BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

**IT WORKS FOR ME** "We are very happy with our Classified Contract within the Express & Star and the enquiries our adverts bring in."

**Pally - Quika Skips** For GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL 01902 319 191

Brought to you by Express & Star

**BLITZ SKIPS** AFFORDABLE SKIPS 2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE MON-SAT 7AM-6PM 01902 870370 0121 517 1111

**AAA SKIP HIRE** All sizes available, competitive prices. Call now on: 01922 711411 or 07592 940556.

**tree services** BUDGET TREE SURGERY Tall or small. Conifers & hedge trimming. Shrubs pruned, tidy ups & make overs 01215053556 / 07936882552

**RM TREE SERVICES** All aspects of tree maintenance. Free quotes call: 07950 062756 or 01922 712440.

**upholstery** **ABANDON NOT!** ESTABLISHED OVER 100 YEARS E MARSH Showroom, Elm House Pountney St, Winton, WV2 4HX 01902 712484/42356

**UPHOLSTERY SERVICES** 3pc/springs/caravans/pubclub/antique es. 01902 689844 / 07817 842980

**4 Pets & Animals** equestrian corner ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

**guns & dogs** AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS, Antique guns, taxidermy- big bore guns, traps ect wanted. 07968 624202

**pets corner** GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS All neutered, inoculated and microchipped. Call 01922 412212 or www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

**RGT Wolverhampton** @RGTWolves

**C.A.A.R.S ANIMAL SANCTUARY** Registered Charity PET RESCUE & BOARDING KENNELS FOR DOGS AND CATS

Open Mon to Sun Call 01922 476208 Red Lane off Crab Lane Essington WV11 2DZ

**NOTICE TO READERS** Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**6 Property** accommodation to let

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**TWO BED FLAT** Great Wyrlie, furnished kitchen, no DSS or smokers, 475pcm. 07836 780188.

**properties wanted**

**WE PAY 100% of purchase price**

**We buy any house**

- FAMILY BUSINESS
- FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- NO FEES/FREE SOLICITORS

**WE ALSO BUY LAND**

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or 01902 628047 24/7 www.black-countryhomes.co.uk

**Need to sell your home fast?**

**We can help you make a fresh start**

**Purchase Agreed Within 7 DAYS**

**ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED**

COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT

FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS

FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE

LOCAL COMPANY

**MARION PROPERTY SOLUTIONS**

**WHY NOT CALL US TODAY**

for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?

**01922 311 030**

OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

**Home Cash Buyer**

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish

**£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££**

**Houses / Land Required**

Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089

Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154

Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049

Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901

www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

**ClassifiedAds** BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

**IT WORKS FOR ME**

**"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"**

**Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer**

**FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL 01902 319 191**

Brought to you by Express & Star

**CASH PAID FOR PROPERTIES** For a fast, fair and friendly service from a local safety firm, call

**ARM HOUSING** 07871 169345

07399 812587

YOUR LEGAL COSTS PAID FREE valuation with no obligation

**7 Jobs**

**building & construction** BRICKLAYERS & CARPENTERS required. Apply to: S.Cliff 01922 713754

**drivers** HGV 2 DRIVER required for 26 tonne refrigerated vehicle. Full time position. Possible nights out. Walsall area. Tel 07765 231994 Or 01922 495965

**engineering** FABRICATORS Required by busy expanding steel fabrication company, ideally have experience, contact Fischer Engineering Products, Maybrook Trading Estate, Unit 2, Maybrook Road, Walsall WS8 7BG. Tel 01543 371881

**warehouse & distribution** GREETINGS HOUSE IS A LEADING DISTRIBUTOR OF GREETING CARDS, PARTY PRODUCTS, FLORISTRY AND GIFTS. We require a Full Time Warehouse Manager

for our busy 75,000 sq. ft. trade cash and carry in Walsall. Responsibilities to include all aspects of buying and stock control, managing staff and customer satisfaction. The role requires a hands on approach, good basic IT skills with hours to include late nights and weekends.

Please send CV to richard@greetingshouse.co.uk

**commercial vehicles** RENAULT MASTER mini buses x.2. 5 reg. spares or repair, offers. 07843 144997.

**driving tuition** 10 Hours £291 Five Hours £201 2 Hours £201 All Areas Covered

AD/POI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10 07432 438494 / 0121 5640090 01902 580968 www.homesdrivinginchool.co.uk

**8 Motoring**

**cars over £1500**

**SELLING YOUR CAR?**

We have a package to suit every budget. Packages start from as little as

**£21.00 for 6 nights**

Plus 6 nights free if you do not sell.

**CALL 01902 317878**

**FORD FIESTA** Silver, low mileage, very little use. Good condition. £2,800. Cannock 01543 877358.

**cars under £1500**

**BMA** Est. Here 25 Years

WIDE range of quality affordable priced cars starting from £500 Full MOT you won't be disappointed

OPEN EVERY DAY 07956 988517 Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**CITROEN C52.2** diesel, red, Sep02. 2 owners, 130k miles, full MOT, 4 new tyres, main dealer full service July 2016. £700. 01785 212140.

**FIAT PUNTO** diesel Dynamic multi-jet, 53 reg, grey, Mot November 2016. 144,000 miles, new clutch, 5425 own. 07810 311974.

**FORD FIESTA** 02 reg. Zetec engine 5 speed, alloy wheels, good runner, 483221, or repair. £150. 01922 493221.

**FORD FIESTA** 08, 69,000 miles, 3dr, silver, Mot July 17, very good condition, front windows Elec, a/c, £1,475. 0783 8697643.

**FORD FIESTA** 2004 (AV), 5-dr, Mot 2017, low mileage, PAS, electric windows, excellent condition, £585. 0121 384 7888.

**FORD KA** 2003, 33,000 miles, genuine full service history, new Mot. £795. 07523 729551.

**NISSAN ALMERA SPORT** 2002, 106,000 miles, blue, 12 months Mot, new tyres, new exhaust, new front brake discs and pads, very good condition. Wolverhampton. £900 or 07956 431218.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** 1.2i 16V design, 2005, hatchback, silver, manual, petrol, 3dr, full Mot, AUX connectivity, fully loaded, MP3, alloys £1,000.00. Sold as seen, 07890 387533.

**RENAULT MASTER** mini buses x.2. 5 reg. spares or repair, offers. 07843 144997.

**driving tuition** 10 Hours £291 Five Hours £201 2 Hours £201 All Areas Covered

AD/POI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10 07432 438494 / 0121 5640090 01902 580968 www.homesdrivinginchool.co.uk

**motorbikes** NFL MOTORCYCLE TRAINING CBT to full licence. Call 8am - 9pm for deals 01902 434422.

**scrap vehicles** OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

**MCEB** TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS Tel: 01902 408176 1000's of parts available at all times MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

**vehicle hire** W.T.R. VAN HIRE Connects, Transits, Lutons with Tail lifts, pick-ups. Open seven days. 01902 457002 / 01384 799090.

**vehicles wanted** **A1 AUTOS WANTED** CARS, VANS, 4x4s, SCRAP MOT FAILURES, ANY CONDITION £50-£10,000

**WE BUY QUALITY USED CARS** 07527 303 336 (24/7, any area) T&C Apply

**CROWN MOTORS** guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

**spares & accessories** **mobile mechanics** MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs, Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

**9 Local Information**

**public & legal notices**

**Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control** Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1950 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 10G. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

**Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**16/1095 Mr John Clapcott** FOR: DEMOLITION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AND ERECTION OF PORCH. AT: 54, WALSALL WOOD ROAD, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 8QT

**16/1110 Yassar Khalil** FOR: CHANGE OF USE FROM OFFICES TOGETHER WITH GROUND FLOOR AND 1ST FLOOR EXTENSIONS TO CREATE 7 BEDSITS AT: ALEXANDER HOUSE, 52, BRADFORD STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3OD

**16/1157 Mr Talwar Singh** FOR: SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS AND INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AT: 54 & 55, GEORGE STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1RS

**16/1145 Mecca Bingo Ltd** FOR: CHANGE OF USE TO MECCA ELECTRONIC BINGO CENTRE WITH ANCILLARY FOOD AND DRINK OPERATION: ALTERATIONS TO ENTRANCE DOORS; AND ERECTION OF AIR CONDITIONING COMPRESSORS. AT: 9-11, PARK STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1LY

**16/1147 Accord Group** FOR: CHANGE OF USE, CONVERSION AND EXTENSION OF EXISTING CAR PARKING STRUCTURE TO 5 HOUSES. AT: CAR PARK OFF SISTER DORA GARDENS, SISTER DORA GARDENS, WALSALL

**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES** For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**10 Personals**

**personal** **LOVE ISN'T EASY TO FIND** If your heart is closed to adventure, take small steps with us holding your hand and don't give up until you find that incredible partner to change your world. Call 0121 520 3715 for more details

**CHAMELEONS SPA** Relax in our premises, 2 jacuzzi's, steamroom/sauna, Chill out rooms & bar area. Open 7 days a week from 2:00pm until late. 2 mins from J9 / J10 M6. For further details call 0121 5686117. www.chameleons.co

**LADY WISHING TO MEET GENTLEMAN 45 - 55** I am 50, blond and attractive. Wishing to meet someone who is honest and trustworthy. Photo appreciated and returned.

**Cannock or surrounding area. Box Number P20506, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.**

**THE GREENHOUSE SPA** for gay/bisexual men. Jacuzzi and rest-rooms on site. TV's & ladyboys welcome Friday evenings. Open 7 days pw. 2 mins J9 / J10 M6. 0121 5686126 www.gay-sauna.com

**general**

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

**BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL** 01902 317878

**ClassifiedAds**



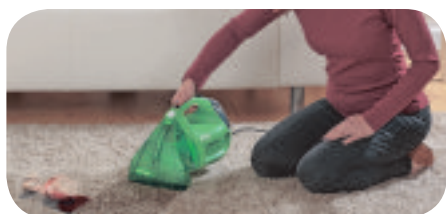
Order from the comfort of your own home

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[www.expressandstarshop.co.uk](http://www.expressandstarshop.co.uk)

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**D9496 Handheld Carpet Cleaner**  
**D9497 Three Extra Brush Heads £9.99**



**Only £19.99 plus £3.95 P&P**

D7276 Red



**Only £29.99 plus £4.95 P&P**

D6430 White/Green  
D7149 White/Blue  
D6431 Spare Mop Heads – 3 pack £9.99



**8am-8pm, 7 days a week. \*Calls cost 13p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.**

**Quote  
65433**

**Order online at**  
**[expressandstarshop.co.uk](http://expressandstarshop.co.uk)**

Our 'was' pricing refers to the original selling prices offered on our website [www.cjoffers.co.uk](http://www.cjoffers.co.uk) and in our retail store between 23rd May and 23rd August 2016. Allow 7 working days for delivery. Allow 7 working days for delivery. If not happy for any reason we will accept return of faulty/unused goods in sealed original packaging for full refund or replacement within 30 days. These goods are sold and supplied by BVG-Group Ltd. with whom you contract when you accept this offer. A SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON DELIVERY.

RETURN TO: EXPRESS & STAR (65433), PO BOX 87, BRECON, LD3 3BE

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (for queries only) \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my cheque/PO made payable to BVG-GROUP LTD for £\_\_\_\_\_ Or please debit my card £\_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro Issue No \_\_\_\_\_

My card number is:

[illegible]

\*Midland News Association Ltd and other MNA companies or selected third parties may contact you with details of goods and services you may be interested in. By placing this order you give consent to Midland News Association

Limited or selected third parties doing so, unless you have indicated your objection by ticking this box ☐ if you do not want to hear from selected third parties and ticking this box ☐ if you do not want to hear from Midland Network Association Ltd."

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Coach Mick Mielczarek and athletes at the Halesowen club



Falan Priest, aged 12,



Coach Ian Priest puts Billy Papworth and George Lamb, both aged 10, through their paces



Young club member Lee Wright, aged 16, practises the javelin

# Athletics club is on the right track for success

**HALESOWEN** Athletic Club can look back on a rich and proud history and, judging by the amount of young talent on the club's books, the future is shaping up nicely as well.

The next generation of athletes are making impressive progress under the watchful eye of a knowledgeable coaching set-up and dedicated committee.

The whole operation is headed by chairman Rob Weaver, who is keen to add a new chapter to the growing success story.

The club was founded in 1922 by their most famous son Jack Price, who represented Great Britain in the 1908 London Olympic marathon – the first time the race was staged over 26 miles and 385 yards.

He continued to be involved as a coach at Halesowen Athletics & Cycling Club, as it became known, until the 1940s, by which time the club was established at its current home, the Manor Abbey Stadium on Manor Way.

## Honour

Price's contribution was officially recognised recently when a plaque in his memory was unveiled in Halesowen town centre and the entrance to the club was renamed in his honour.

But having witnessed a fitting nod to the past, Weaver and the 15-strong committee are determined to drive the club forward and increase their 400-plus membership.

The club participates in a number of leagues including the Birmingham and District Cross Country League, West Midlands Young Athletes Cross Country League, Heart of England Young Athletes League and were promoted to the Premier Division of the Youth Development League for this year's track and

## SPORTING MEMORIES

By Nick Elwell

**"It's a really vibrant club with lots of different age groups. The atmosphere is really good."**

field season. "It's a really vibrant club with lots of different age groups," said Weaver.

"It's one of the few places where there is a mix of people of different ages and from different backgrounds. The atmosphere is really good."

"One of the things I would like us to do is bridge the gap between the youngsters and the club stalwarts."

"We have a thriving junior section and then the older members and stalwarts from 35-40 upwards. "It's the late 20 and early 30s area where we would like to get more people."

While Weaver is seeking to increase adult membership, there is an endless supply of young talent on the club's books.

They include the Oliarnyk sisters – 14-year-old pentathlete Iris and sprinter Josie, 16 – sprinter Charles Hilliard and 400m runner Joe Rogers.

"We have a lot of talented youngsters," added Weaver. "Joe represented England at under-18 level last year at 400m and Charles, Iris and Josie all won medals at the England national indoor championships in Sheffield in February."

Under-15 athlete Tristan Dunn is another promising youngster having been ranked first in the UK last

year in both the hammer and shot. The recent cross country season saw Halesowen's under-17 girls team take the title with Lily Higgins winning the league series. Halesowen as a whole finished fifth out of the 21 teams that take part across the four age groups.

"We are very pro-active in terms of identifying talent and we also have good links with the local schools," said Weaver.

"We run a Saturday club for youngsters up to the age of 13. They can just come and sample various events without specialising too early. It's a pathway into the club without being competitive."

"If they show any promise then they can go along on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday night or whatever and have specialised coaching for the event they are good at. We have good coaches here and a wide range of coaches."

## Record

But the success is not confined to the youngsters.

Alan Smallwood competes in the over-70 race-walking events and in 1993 he set an all-time record in the over-50s age category in the 3000m (13.06) which still stands today.

Marc Turner, who now races in the over-40s age category, has been running alongside the best in the UK for a number of years and won a silver medal in the 800m at last year's World Masters.

"One of the big things about the club is that you don't have to be a competitive runner," Weaver said. "We deal with the elite end of athletics, but also welcome the mass participation runners who just want to get fit and don't want to compete."

"We are not an elite club. Some people might feel it's a bit intimidating to join a club, but it's not."

"If they take the courage to come down they will be made more than welcome."

To join the club, contact Rob Weaver on 07792 244614.



Coaches Mick Mielczarek and Matt Allen with Emily Fitzpatrick, aged 15, Emily Morris 15 and Ilene Braham, 12



Ladies seniors captain: Anna Cosimetti, with, from left, Sarah Smith, Sam Morton, Sally Spencer, Caroline Lambert



# Sport

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## Off the starting blocks and aiming for track triumphs

### Page 43



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## Khalsa grab first victory to beat Lye

**Sporting Khalsa 3 Lye Town 0**  
SPORTING Khalsa finally got their season under way after three successive defeats. Ian Rowe's men needed a brilliant performance between the sticks by Tom Turner to shut out Lye. It was the home debut of Johnny Haynes, with his long throws that caused all the problems at the other end of the field.

First, on 18 minutes, Dave Meese headed home a throw to give Khalsa the lead. And then, exactly 10 minutes later, Craig Bannister tapped home another – his first league goal of the season. Khalsa skipper Tes Robinson wrapped up the scoring on 52 minutes, heading home a corner.

### Willenhall 1 Haughmond 9

The Lockmen found their defence carved apart as they conceded seven second-half goals to Haughmond.

Willenhall started much the brighter side, culminating in Matt Dorgan being played through on 13 minutes and confidently firing past Sam Jones. Haughmond levelled with their first real attack on 22 minutes through Kev Renshaw.

The Lockmen continued to threaten, but on 37 minutes Dave Howarth put the visitors in front. On 47 minutes a clever free-kick saw the ball knocked sideways from Howarth and Hodge netted from the left hand side of the box.

Six minutes later another quick free-kick saw Howarth net his second. Two minutes later another quick break from their own half saw Hodge net his second.

Howarth then sealed his hat-trick and the Lockmen saw their day go from bad to worse as keeper Harry Radford was carried off with an ankle injury after all three subs had been used.

Steve Hole scored a deflected free-kick before Hodge broke clear on 82 minutes to notch his hat-trick. Renshaw rounded off the scoring two minutes from time.

## Boxers on the rise as they take to ring undefeated

A DOZEN undefeated boxers take to the ring for the Hatton Promotions, in association with Black Country Boxing, six-fight show at Walsall FC's Banks's Stadium tomorrow night (Friday).

'On The Rise', sponsored by Grosvenor Casino Walsall, will be headlined by Halesowen's Lennox Clarke, up against Lithuanian Vaidas Balciuskas.

Nantwich's Nathan Gorman wars up for his Central Area heavyweight title showdown with David Howe in Stoke in October with an eight rounder against Croatian Ivica Perkovic, a 42-year-old veteran of more than 50 fights.

Fellow Ricky Hatton-trained prospect Reuben Arrowsmith is also in action, while Tewkesbury middleweight Adam Harper fights outside of Gloucestershire for the first time as he steps in with Russian born Andrej Cepur.

Swadincote super middleweight, Zach Parker faces tough Latvian Raimonds Sniedze. Completing the card is Navan super middleweight Chris Blaney, who has replaced Wolverhampton bantamweight Kyle Williams, a former Kickboxing World Champion.

## Pics dig deep to see off Yeltz threat

### Coalville 3 Rushall Olympic 3

OLYMPIC came back from three goals down to draw 3-3 at Coalville Town on bank holiday Monday.

The home side took the lead on 38 minutes when Callum Woodward found the net from a tight angle and the Leicestershire side were able to double their advantage on the stroke of half-time when Massiah McDonald was played through and he made no mistake.

It was 3-0 early in the second half when Nat Watson guided the ball home from close range.

The Pics reduced the arrears when Aris Chris-

### FOOTBALL

tophorou crossed from the left and Alex Reid planted his header home. With McDonald dismissed for the home side, a free-kick from Luke Bottomer found its way home to make it 3-2 and Reid fired into the roof of the net after his initial effort was saved, to level matters.

Meanwhile, Pics striker Daniel Dubidat, who signed from Leamington over the summer, has left the club by mutual consent.

### Rushall Olympic 1 Halesowen 0

RUSHALL Olympic were made to work hard to

secure derby victory against Halesowen Town at a wet Dales Lane.

The goal arrived on 34 minutes just as the heav-ens started to open when a great cross from Bilal Yafai on the left-hand side found Aaron Forde who made no mistake to guide the ball home.

### Rushall Olympic 3 Grantham Town 1

THE deadlock was broken five minutes before the break when Zak Martin fired home a beauty.

The Pics started the second period with purpose and Alex Reid rounded off another neat move with Rushall's second goal on 58 minutes.

Martin fired home his second of the evening but Grantham reduced the arrears through Saunders.

## Wood set pace with early strikes

**Sporting Khalsa 0 Walsall Wood 2**  
KHALSA had by far the better of the first half an hour but for a change it was Wood who went in at half time two goals to the good in this bank holiday Monday clash.

They had dominated the second half and fully deserved their first ever victory against Khalsa at level 5.

The lead came on 27 minutes as Nick Wright ran at the home defence and played a neat 1-2 with Karl Edwards before releasing Louis Harris into the left of the box. He calmly stroked the ball past the advancing Tom Turner, the ball taking an age seemingly, before bouncing off the inside of the right hand post and just having the legs to cross the line. It was the first goal Wood had scored against Khalsa in five hours and two minutes of football.

Penalty claims were waved away when Craig Deakin was felled 12 yards out, but the ball was hit sweetly first time by Louis Harris bounced off a defender and nestled in the left hand corner of the net.

The win takes Wood up to third and they travel to AFC Wulfs on Saturday in what is always an intriguing encounter at Castlecroft.

### Walsall Wood 1 Coleshill Town 2

WOOD probably shaded the first half but went in two goals down at half time, before they lost Louis Harris in the 50th minute to a second yellow card.

Luke Barlone and Reece Leek had put the visitors in the driving seat. Wood who pulled a goal back from the penalty spot from Drew Aiton on 90 minutes.

### Walsall Wood 3 Brocton 1

ALL the goals came in the opening 45 minutes as Wood gained revenge for the opening day defeat by the Badgers.

Joey Butlin netted twice in the opening 15 minutes and Nick Wright opened his goal account for Wood on half time.

## Hotshot Westwood hits fifth hat-trick

**Wolves Sporting 5 Pegasus 0**  
SPORTING began the day top of the league with six wins from six and with hotshot Dan Westwood chasing a record fifth consecutive hat-trick.

He duly smashed four goals and Demetri Dunkley added a fine solo goal. Next up is a massive home game against big spending and title favourites Malvern.

**Wellington Amateurs FC 0 Sporting 6**  
MITCH Clarke, Rion Francis-Mills and Phil McErdy added to Dan Westwood's fourth consecutive treble.

Wellington had keeper Jake Smith dismissed. Sporting's James Gittings saved a penalty.

★★★

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# CLOUDS GATHER ABOVE BANKS'S

**NO-ONE** who witnessed the torrential downpour during the first half of this game could ever have imagined the biggest storm was yet to come for Walsall and manager Jon Whitney.

Three goals up and cruising at half-time, the Saddlers were quite literally singing in the rain.

While an hour later the skies above the Banks's Stadium had cleared, inside the mood had darkened considerably. A point salvaged from the wreckage of a dreadful second half did end a run of two straight losses, but there could be no disguising this felt like a defeat in all but name.

Positives from an opening 45 minutes, in which Whitney's new-look team provided a glimpse of just how good they might be, were washed away. Goals from Leon Barnett and James Vaughan within four minutes of the restart brought Bury roaring back into it and the Saddlers wilted with no indication anyone on the pitch, or on the bench, knew how to stop the inevitable equaliser from Danny Mayor.

Most concerning of all were the cascade of boos which rained down from the stands when Whitney chose to remove Erhun Oztumer from the action as he looked to stem the flow.

Just months into his managerial career, the Saddlers boss remains a long way from winning over those who question his tactical ability and some of his post-match comments, while delivered with typically admirable honesty, seemed squarely directed at the doubters. There are moments however, it must be said, when you wonder just who he is trying to convince.

If Whitney is indeed already feeling the pressure, the question has to be why?

After a summer in which he was given the security of a three-year contract, has overhauled the squad and was allowed to break a transfer record which had stood for almost four decades, the one thing he is surely guaranteed is time.

**Saddlers** (4-2-3-1): Etheridge 6, Kinsella 6, McCarthy 5, Toner 5, Edwards 5, Chambers 6 @, Osbourne 7 (Dobson 4 43), Morris 5, Oztumer 7 (Kouhyar 6 73), Makris 7 (Bakayoko 58 5), Jackson 5 Subs not used: Preston, Ginnelly, Sangha, MacGillivray (gk). **Bury** (4-2-3-1): Williams, Jones, Kay, Barnett, Soares, Maher (Pope 26), Ismail (Dudley 90+1), Mayor, Hope (Mellis HT), Vaughan Subs not used: Clark, Burgess, Rachubka (gk)



Simeon Jackson puts Walsall three-up before weathering the storm of the second half

## Injury rules Kearney out of Paralympics

TULLY Kearney will not get the chance to add a Paralympic gold medal to her collection of four world titles after being ruled out of the Rio Games.

The 19-year-old swimmer, from Aldridge, has been battling injury all year and admitted she was 'devastated' to pull out of the Great Britain squad

less than two weeks before the Paralympics gets under way.

Fellow Aldridge swimmer Ellie Simmonds will lead the Paralympics GB squad in Rio.

Kearney, who has a condition which causes muscle weakness, said:

"I have been battling a recent progression in my condition

and this, coupled with ongoing shoulder injury over the past six months, has massively affected my ability to train this season."

"I have fought really hard to find a way back from this and know that I did everything in my power to get to Rio, but it just wasn't to be I would like to wish the team all the best."



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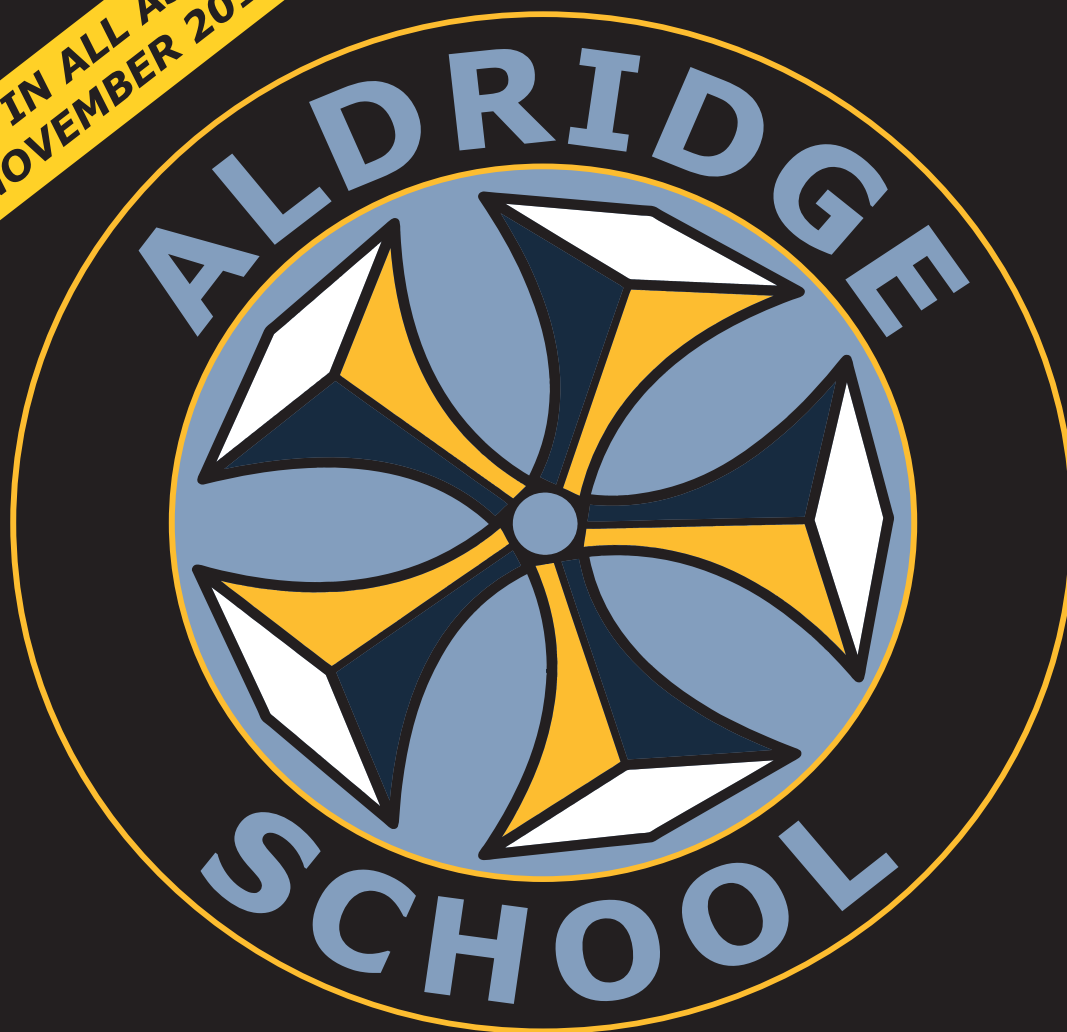
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***"The school is an orderly and harmonious community."***

**Ofsted 2012**

## Aldridge students jump for joy at A level haul

Aldridge School students and staff are celebrating again this year with top results for A level students; with over a quarter of all entries resulting in A\* and A grades.

The school's pass rate of 99 percent is a tremendous achievement with 15% of Year 13 students getting three A\* to A grades with a significant increase being noted in the top grades within facilitating subjects.

Top student Christopher Jones secured A\* in Chemistry, Maths and his extended project, with Grade A's netted in Economics and Further Maths. Christopher is set to study Economics at LSE. Sarah Harper, achieved an A\* in Psychology and A's in Maths and Biology and is going to study Psychology at University of Birmingham.

James Paine and Daniel Richards netted 6 A\*/A grades between them and are both off to Nottingham University to study Physics. Ellis Leonard is an extremely talented linguist, achieving an A\* and A in French and German respectively – Ellis is off to study linguistics at Edinburgh university.



Emily Clougher also achieved excellent results and she is off to follow her interests at University in Environmental Science.

As in previous years results in vocational subjects including Business, Sport, IT and Art/Art & Design have been outstanding with a 100 per cent of students achieving distinction\* or distinction grades.

David Mountney, headteacher, said; "Results like these are the product of consistent hard work by pupils, parents and staff. In an increasingly demanding world the pupils of Aldridge have proved they can step up to the challenge. Well Done."

***"Students enjoy their learning and are well prepared for the next steps of education, work or training."***

**Ofsted 2012**



# Aldridge School Celebrates GCSE Success

Aldridge School is once again celebrating with a strong set of GCSE results including a huge increase in A\* grades overall, particularly in Maths and Sciences.

With the new headline measures this year, the school has increased the percentage of students achieving A\*-C in English and Maths to more than 66%. EBACC results, which incorporate grades for Maths, English, Sciences, History, Geography and Modern Foreign Languages have also increased to maintain the upward trend.

Top student Peter Parcsami achieved nine A\* and three A grades with Bilal Shafiq, James Moss, Eve Bailey and Hollie Hutchinson netting more than 20 A\* and nine A grades between them.

David Mountney, Aldridge School head teacher, said: "As with our superb A-level results last week, the GCSE results today once again demonstrate the school's commitment to achieving excellence together.

***"The proportion of students obtaining the highest A\* to A grades has also shown a significant improvement. Standards are well above average."***



"These are a very pleasing set of results given the radical government changes to the exam system which has impacted on all Year 11 students. These students have coped with these challenges in a most mature way. They truly deserve their success."

Of the students who sat GCSEs at the school in a full range of subjects the school expects more than 67 per cent to stay onto study A-levels at its sixth form, with others opting for college courses or apprenticeships.

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